

A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

ABBHEY'S ADVOCATE

Independent Booksellers Since 1968

The Rose

Jennifer POTTER
560pp Hb \$59.99

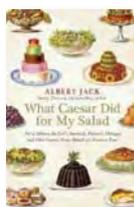
The rose. No other flower has come close to capturing the Western imagination in quite the same way. Tulip fever may have flared fiercely and suddenly in 17th century Europe, and the Madonna lily may match the white rose for its symbolic purity, but no other flower fascinates like the rose. In its very ambiguities lies the blood of Christ with the sweat of Muhammad, the sacred and the profane, life and death, the white rose of chastity and the red rose of consummation. Potter sets out on a quest to uncover the life of a flower which has been admired by different cultures in different countries across the centuries. She discovers what it is about the rose that has driven people to distraction, where the roses of today originated and how they propagated and spread. From Greek and Roman empires, through Europe, the Middle East to China, her search unfolds across the world, enriched by fabulous historical characters, literary evocations and man's perpetual love of this unique flower.



**What Caesar Did for My Salad
Not to Mention the Earl's Sandwich,
Pavlova's Meringue and Other Curious
Stories Behind Our Favourite Food**

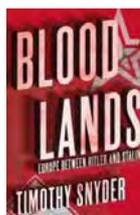
Albert JACK
368pp Hb \$29.95

Did you know that the Cornish Pasty was invented to protect tin miners from arsenic poisoning? Or that the word 'salary' comes from Roman soldiers being paid their wages in salt? Why do we eat goose (or turkey) at Christmas? Is the Scotch egg actually from Scotland? What did some retired crusaders have to do with French toast? Who was the original Earl Grey? What sauce was inspired by Parliament? What dish was invented by Greek bandits on the run? Why were hot cross buns seen as magical? What's so rebellious about a haggis? Or medicinal about a gin and tonic? Here are the strange tales behind our favourite dishes and drinks and where they come from (not to mention their unusual creators). Bursting with fascinating insights, characters and enough stories to entertain a hundred dinner parties!



**Bloodlands
Europe Between
Hitler and Stalin**
Timothy SNYDER
544pp Hb \$49.95

In the middle of Europe, in the middle of the 20th century, the Nazi and Soviet regimes starved, shot and gassed 14 million people in a zone of death between Berlin and Moscow. These were the bloodlands - today's Ukraine, Belarus, Poland, western Russia and the eastern Baltic coast. In a 12-year period - 1933 to 1945 - as a result of deliberate policies unrelated to combat, an average of more than a million civilians were murdered annually. At the end of the Second World War, the bloodlands fell behind the iron curtain, leaving their history in darkness. In this revelatory book, Snyder offers a groundbreaking investigation of Europe's killing fields and a sustained explanation of the motives and methods of both Hitler and Stalin. He anchors the history of Hitler's Holocaust and Stalin's Terror in their time and place and provides a fresh account of the relationship between the two regimes. Using scholarly literature and primary sources in all relevant languages, he pays special attention to the testimony of the victims: the letters home, the notes flung from trains, the diaries found on corpses. Brilliantly researched, profoundly humane, this book re-examines the greatest tragedy in European history and forces us to rethink our past.



**Homework for Grown-ups
Everything You Learnt at School...
and Promptly Forgot**
E FOLEY & B COATES
418pp Hb \$29.95

Don't know your isosceles from your equilateral? Forgotten who wrote *Waltzing Matilda*? Do you know when you've left a participle hanging? And are you left slack-jawed when your children ask you what 'quid pro quo' means? Bewildered already? Fret no longer. This new Australian edition of the bestselling classic is packed with essential facts, figures and theories, along with fun but challenging test papers to keep you on your toes and reignite those dormant brain cells.



YOUR CHANCE TO SEE TRUE GRIT

To celebrate the release of *True Grit*, we have double passes to the new film of the classic novel *True Grit* by Charles Portis (Pb \$22.99).

The father of 14-year-old Mattie Ross has been shot in cold blood by the coward Tom Chaney, and she is determined to bring him to justice. Enlisting the help of a trigger-happy, drunken US Marshal, Rooster Cogburn, she sets out with him - over his objections - to hunt down Chaney. Starring Jeff Bridges, Hailee Steinfeld, Matt Damon and Josh Brolin, and directed by the Coen Brothers.

To go in the draw, just tell us the actor who played Rooster Cogburn in the 1969 version of this film. Send your answer and postal address, with TRUE GRIT in the subject line, to feedback@abbey.com.au by 15 January.

**ONLY AT THE MOVIES
FROM 26 JANUARY**
www.truegritmovie.com.au



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**Botany Bay
The Real Story**
Alan FROST

320pp Tp \$32.95

Established as a prison colony, the story goes, this country owes its existence simply to overcrowded English jails and its daunting remoteness from everywhere else. Frost digs deeper and sheds new light on the decision to start a colony in Australia. He examines the impact of the American War of Independence and Britain's shifting strategic aims, the role of ministerial incompetence and ambition, and the concerns of a turbulent society obsessed with law and order. He questions several accepted ideas about how and why Britain set its sights on an Australian colony. Before the First Fleet set sail, various destinations were seriously considered: West Africa, Central America and New Zealand. In settling on Sydney, the British hoped not merely to be rid of convicts, but also to secure a key strategic outpost and gain control of the valuable natural resources of the Pacific. The culmination of 30 years of studying of previously neglected archives, Frost offers new and surprising insights into how Australia came to be.



**Australia Day
Wednesday 26 January
Open 10am - 5pm**

**Staff Favourites p 7
Specials p 10**

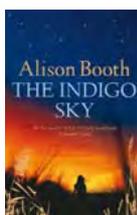


The Indigo Sky

Alison BOOTH

352pp Tp \$32.95

It is the spring of 1961 and the sleepy little town of Jingera is at its most perfect with its clear blue skies, pounding surf and breathtaking lagoon. Yet all is not so perfect behind closed doors. George Cadwallader, butcher by day and stargazer by night, is loved by everyone - except his wife. He only wants the best for his family, yet it's all falling apart. Philip Chapman is a sensitive young boy, a musical prodigy - and a target for bullies. But with his wealthy parents indifferent to his cries for help, his entire future is at risk... Then there's Ilona Vincent and her daughter Zidra, former refugees, now fully-fledged 'Jingeroids'. When a voice from the past reaches out to them, they're soon in a race against time to reunite a family that has been cruelly torn apart... Once again weaving together the enchanting stories of Jingera and its townsfolk, Booth offers up a heart-warming sequel to the critically acclaimed *Stillwater Creek* (Pb \$12.95 for a limited time).

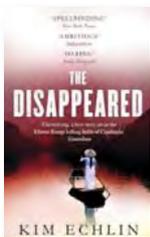


The Disappeared

Kim ECHLIN

336pp Pb \$22.99

After more than 30 years, Anne Greves feels compelled to break her silence about her first lover, and embarks on a treacherous pursuit across Cambodia's killing fields. Once she was a motherless girl from taciturn immigrant stock. Defying fierce opposition, she falls in love with Serey, a gentle rebel and exiled musician. She's still only 16 when he leaves her in their Montreal flat to return to Cambodia. After a decade without word, she abandons everything to search for him in the bars of Phnom Penh, a city traumatised by the Khmer Rouge slaughter. Against all odds, the lovers are reunited, and in a country where tranquil rice paddies harbour the bones of the massacred, Anne pieces together a new life with Serey. But there are wounds that love cannot heal, and some mysteries too dangerous to reveal...

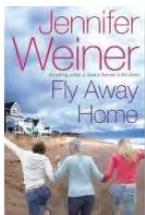


Fly Away Home

Jennifer WEINER

384pp Tp \$32.99

Sylvie Woodruff has spent the last 30 or so years being the ideal politician's wife and raising two daughters. When her world crashes down around her after a painful, public betrayal, she retreats to her grandmother's rambling seaside home to wait for the scandal to blow over. Her eldest daughter, Kate, married out of friendship, not love - then years later, finds herself falling for a most unsuitable man. When the affair ends badly, she sets off in search of a new beginning. Lizzie, Kate's younger sister, who caused her parents such heartache as a teenager, is finally getting her life together. When a summer fling leaves her pregnant, and her charming boyfriend turns violent, she too heads out of town.

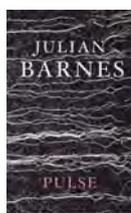


Pulse

Julian BARNES

240pp Hb \$39.95

The stories in Barnes's long-awaited third collection are attuned to rhythms and currents: of the body, love, sex, illness and death, connections and conversations. Each character is bent to a pulse, propelled on by success and loss, by new beginnings and endings. In *East Wind*, a divorced estate agent falls in love with a European waitress, but is tempted, despite his happiness, to investigate her past; in *The Limner*, a deaf painter discovers his patron's likeness after spending time among his staff. Anchored off the coast of Brazil, Garibaldi spies his future wife through a telescope; and in *Marriage Lines*, a widower returns to a remote Scottish island to relive a favourite holiday.

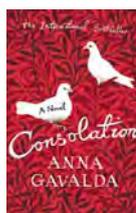


Consolation

Anna GAVALDA

480pp Pb \$24.95

A successful 47-year-old architect hears about the death of a woman he once loved - Anouk, the tragically big-hearted mother of a childhood friend - and his life starts to unravel. Charles seems to have everything, but turns his back on the present to go in search of her past and his childhood, falling a long way down. One day he finds himself on a Paris pavement covered in his own blood. But fate holds out a final chance of consolation when, far from his Parisian milieu, he meets Kate, an enchanting young woman, herself damaged, but fearless and in love with life. The bestselling French novel of 2008, darker and more complex than Gavalda's first novel *Hunting and Gathering* (Pb \$24.95).



Do No Harm

Carol TOPOLSKI

336pp Tp \$32.95

Everyone knows about Virginia: about her stellar reputation as a gynaecologist; about her commitment to her patients. But does anyone know about the knives? There is someone who really does know Virginia, who knows that good doctors can go bad. Just as she did in *Monster Love* (Pb \$24.95) - her brilliant debut about a horrible crime in a harmless setting - Topolski goes behind the busy routine of a hospital to build a dark, compelling portrait of a good, upright life going horribly wrong...

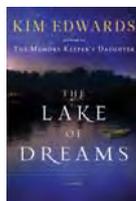


The Lake of Dreams

Kim EDWARDS

352pp Tp \$29.95

After years abroad, Lucy returns home from Japan. At a crossroads in her life, she is newly haunted by her father's unresolved death a decade ago. Late one night, as she paces the hallways of her family's rambling lakeside house, she discovers, locked in a window seat, a collection of objects that appear to be idle curiosities, but soon reveal a complex family history. Old longings stirred up by her passionate first love soon lead her into the unexpected. As she discovers and explores the traces of her past, the family story she has always known is shattered, emboldening her to live with a newfound freedom. A gripping and powerful saga from the author of *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* (Pb \$24.95).



Best European Fiction 2011

Aleksandar HEMON (Ed)

Pb \$22.95

Historically, English-language readers have been great fans of European literature, and names like Franz Kafka, Gustave Flaubert and Thomas Mann are so familiar we hardly think of them as foreign at all. What those writers brought to English-language literature was a wide variety of new ideas, styles and ways of seeing the world. Yet times have changed: how much do we even know about the richly diverse literature being written in Europe today? This is a window onto what's happening now in Europe... where the next Kafka, Flaubert or Mann is waiting to be discovered!

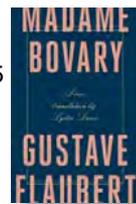


Madame Bovary

Gustave FLAUBERT

384pp Hb \$39.95

Emma Bovary is beautiful and bored, trapped in her marriage to a mediocre doctor and stifled by the banality of provincial life. An ardent reader of sentimental novels, she longs for passion and seeks escape in fantasies of high romance, in voracious spending and, eventually, in adultery. But even her affairs bring her disappointment and the consequences are devastating. Flaubert's erotically charged and psychologically acute portrayal of Emma caused a moral outcry on its publication in 1857. It was deemed so lifelike that many women claimed they were the model for his heroine, but Flaubert insisted: "Madame Bovary, c'est moi".



Doctor Zhivago

Boris PASTERNAK

544pp Hb \$49.95

Banned in the Soviet Union until 1988, this is the epic story of the life and loves of a poet-physician during the turmoil of the Russian Revolution. Taking his family from Moscow to what he hopes will be shelter in the Ural Mountains, Yuri Zhivago finds himself instead embroiled in the battle between the Whites and the Reds, and in love with the tender and beautiful nurse Lara. Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky have restored the rhythms, tone, precision and poetry of Pasternak's original, bringing this classic of world literature gloriously to life for a new generation of readers.

Master of Rome

Masters of the Sea #3

John STACK

384pp Tp \$32.99

Atticus, the young Greek captain, is now a commander of the growing Roman navy, blockading a port near Tunis, when the Roman legions suffer terrible defeat by the triumphant Carthaginian army, spearheaded by the elephant charges. He and his ships escape, together with the main body of the Roman fleet, out-maneuvred by the more skilful Carthaginians, then caught and almost completely annihilated by a terrible storm. Atticus and his crew are among the handful of survivors. As the messenger of this news to the Senta in Rome, Atticus is embroiled in political troubles almost as stormy as the sea. He begins to feel that a Greek will never be accepted by the Romans, while the behaviour of many politicians and soldiers is such that he is not sure he wants to be a Roman. Sequel to *Ship of Rome #1* (Pb \$19.99) and *Captain of Rome #2* (Pb \$24.99).

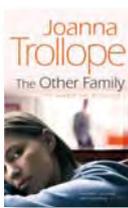




The Other Family

Joanna TROLLOPE
321pp Pb \$24.95

When Richie Rossiter, once a famous pianist, dies unexpectedly, Chrissie knows she must now tell the truth to their three daughters: their parents were never married. Yet there is one more shock to come when Richie's will is read. It seems he never forgot the wife and son he left behind years ago - Margaret, who lives a quiet life of routine and work, and Scott, who never knew his famous father. Now two families are left to confront their losses and each other, and none of them will ever be the same again.



The Tea Lords

Hella HAASSE
320pp Pb \$29.99

Rudolf leaves his comfortable origins in Delft and sails for Java to help run his family's estates. He moves from plantation to plantation, attempting to understand the ways of the local people, their version of Islam and their relationship to their land. On a visit to Jakarta, he falls in love with a teenage girl, Jenny, who he courts surreptitiously, with grave consequences for the reality of their relationships. Eventually they marry and raise children, before Jenny, on her visit to the home country, discovers all the comforts of which she has been deprived in Java. Back at the plantation homestead, as the back-breaking work of establishing and maintaining business takes its toll on Rudolf, Jenny becomes estranged from him, and the bitter resentments of relatives eat at her until a terrible solution is achieved.



Granta #113

The Best of Young Spanish Novelists
John FREEMAN (Ed) 256pp Pb \$27.99

From Borges to Garcia Marquez, Vargas Llosa, Marias or Bolano, the Spanish language has given us some of the 20th century's most beloved writers. But as the reach of Spanish culture extends far beyond Spain and Latin America, and the US tilts towards a majority Hispanic population, the time is right to ask who and what is next in Spanish language fiction. Previous editions in Granta's *Best Young Novelist* series have been startlingly accurate crystal balls, first calling attention to the work of writers from Salman Rushdie to Jonathan Franzen to Zadie Smith. Here, for the first time in translation, they again attempt to predict the stars of the future.



Angela Carter's Book of Wayward Girls and Wicked Women

Angela CARTER et al
416pp Hb \$35.00

This collection of stories extols the female virtues of discontent, sexual disruptiveness and bad manners. Reflecting the wide-ranging intelligence and deliciously anarchic taste of Angela Carter, some of these stories celebrate toughness and resilience, some of them low cunning: all of them are about not being nice.



The Dragon with the Girl Tattoo

Adam ROBERTS
320pp Pb \$17.99

Lizbreath Salamander is young and beautiful. Her scales have an iridescent sheen, her wings arch proudly, and her breath has a tang of sulphur. And on her back a tattoo of a mythical creature: a girl. But when Lizbreath is drawn into a dark conspiracy, she will have to rely on more than her beauty and her vicious claws, the size of sabres... A parody of Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (Pb \$24.95).



Sexually, I'm More of a Switzerland

Personal Ads from the London Review of Books
David ROSE 208pp Hb \$29.99

Personal ads - men and women of all ages, backgrounds and aspirations, laying their souls bare and their hearts on the line - are the modern world's equivalent of the Japanese haiku... or something like that. Painstakingly crafted, finely honed and, above all, short, they offer an endearing, intriguing and often amusing glimpse into the lives of those looking for love. Amid the witty one-liners, there is pathos and passion aplenty; there is hope, longing and lust; romance, regret, ambition and, occasionally, a hint of bitterness. Whatever the tone, however, these ads make for engrossing reading. Organised into themes: "Mentally, I'm a size eight" and "40 years ago I was going to marry Elvis" and "Sexually, I'm more of a Switzerland", this is the perfect gift for the man or woman in your life, as well as single friends everywhere.



Drawing the Line

A Year in Cartoons
Paul COLGAN & David PENBERTHY (Eds)
200pp Tp \$24.99

This is a collection of the year's best cartoons gathered from the pages of News Limited's leading newspapers and magazines, featuring some of the cleverest commentators in the media. Whether it's the antics of the government and the opposition, the big social and political issues or the silly story which somehow got under our skin, this book takes you back to its lighter side.



A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

The World's Oldest Joke Book
Dan CROMPTON
160pp Hb \$24.99

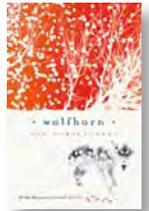
This is the first commercial translation of Philogeios - a 1,600-year-old collection of Greek jokes. From absurd situations to general stupidity, farting to foolishness, it contains a wealth of jokes, some of which still hit the mark and some will have you groaning with laughter, even if it is because they're so bad, they're good! It includes such old chestnuts as: At a woman's funeral, a stranger solemnly asks, who is resting here? 'I am!' cries the widower, 'Now that she's gone!' From the sublime to the ridiculous, and despite some humour appearing to have been 'lost in translation', this bizarre collection of quips from our comedy forefathers is guaranteed to raise a smile.



REVIEWED BY LINDY JONES
Wolfborn

Sue BURSZTYNSKI
289pp Pb \$18.95

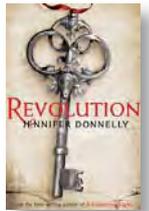
I'm really not at all interested in the current fad for paranormal fiction, but I did enjoy this because of the setting. Loosely based on a Marie de France Lai (and with a nod to Petronius!), this medieval story tells of Etienne, who has to leave his father's lands to further his education as a knight-to-be. His master Geraint is wise and strong, but he is also a bisclavret - a natural born werewolf - in a land that mistrusts the wolfborn. Geraint's young wife betrays him, and with the help of the local wise-woman, her daughter, and with a little help from the faerie of the region, Etienne must try to save Geraint. An enjoyable read. Ages 12-15



Revolution

Jennifer DONNELLY
472pp Pb \$15.99

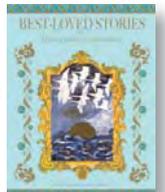
Andi is 17, a talented musician and engaging in rebellious, self-damaging behaviour. Her little brother is dead and she blames herself; her emotionally distant father has left and her mother is having a very serious breakdown. When Andi is forced to accompany her geneticist father to Paris, she discovers a journal written by a young woman in the time of the French Revolution. Alexandrine is the companion to the son of Louis XVI and is in a desperate situation as she attempts to comfort him in his imprisonment. A well-plotted, strong narrative with excellent historical content and believably drawn characters. Ages 15+



Best-Loved Stories

Hans Christian ANDERSEN
223pp Hb \$29.99

A very handsome little volume, illustrated in a colourful, slightly naive style and with coloured margins so it's as much a delight to look at as to read! It contains all the expected stories - *Thumbelina*, *Wild Swans*, *Nightingale*, *Snow Queen* - plus others perhaps not so well-known. The retellings by Neil Philip are fresh and immediate, containing the essence of oral storytelling tradition. For all ages, really!

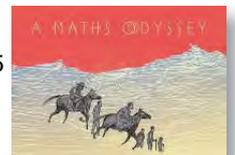


A Maths Odyssey

Tracing a Line from Euclid to the Computer

Matthew CONNELL & Helen WHITTY
48pp Pb \$15.95

In the format of a landscape picture book, this interesting book introduces young readers to the concept that mathematics is more than arithmetic - that it is full of stories - by taking the idea of a straight line and describing how that idea has changed the world. Illustrated by Matt Huynh, it is connected to the national curriculum, but don't let either that or the subject be off-putting! It is a fascinating journey, simply but originally told.





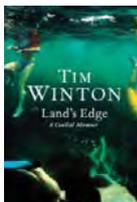
Land's Edge

A Coastal Memoir

Tim WINTON

124pp Hb \$29.95

On childhood holidays to the beach, the sun and surf kept Tim Winton outside in the mornings, in the water; the wind would drive him indoors in the afternoons, to books and reading. This ebb and flow of the day became a way of life. In this beautifully delicate memoir, he writes about his obsession with what happens where the water meets the shore – about diving, dunes, beachcombing – and the sense of being on the precarious, wondrous edge of things. "Winton's prose ripples, shimmers and surges with awe and respect for how the ocean has not only sustained him physically and emotionally but determined the very rhythms of his life." Fiona Capp - *The Age*



Australians of the Year

1960-2010

Celebrating 50 Years of Remarkable Achievement

Wendy LEWIS

320pp Tp \$39.95

Psychiatrist Patrick McGorry accepted the 2010 *Australian of the Year* award - the latest in a line of inspiring Australians stretching back 50 years to the award's first recipient, biologist Sir Frank Burnett. This book celebrates this 50th anniversary by taking a close-up look at the lives of each recipient and revealing talented and admirable role models Australia can be proud of. A fascinating collection of scientists, sportspeople, entertainers, doctors, leaders, soldiers and environmentalists, including opera diva Dame Joan Sutherland, war hero Sir Ernest Edward 'Weary' Dunlop and athlete Cathy Freeman.



Dog Walks Man

A Six-Legged Odyssey

John ZEAMAN

320pp Pb \$22.99

An art critic is duped into getting a dog by his children and begins a metaphysical journey discovering a new world on his doorstep and a new way of thinking. Walking Pete (a poodle named after a Ghostbuster) opens the author up to a different way of looking at the world. As he discovers more about his neighbourhood its wild fringes, its natural wonders and the characters within it, he becomes more aware of man's connections to his environment. Woven into the absorbing narrative are the timeless issues of avoiding saying w-a-l-k in canine company; dog walkers' envy of those who find mafia murder victims and the joy of finding wild, no-rules, dog-walking land on your doorstep.



Love and Other Drugs

James REIDY

240pp Pb \$19.95

Reidy's comedic memoir describes his successful career as a drugs salesman during the launching of Viagra. This witty, behind-the-scenes look at an industry that touches everyone with a prescription has now been adapted into a major motion picture starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Anne Hathaway.



The Box

Günter GRASS

208pp Hb \$45.00

Once upon a time there was a father who, because he had grown old, called together his sons and daughters and finally convinced them, after long hesitation, to do as he wished. Now they are sitting around a table and begin to talk... In this delightful sequel to *Peeling the Onion* (Pb \$27.95), Grass writes in the voices of his eight children as they record memories of their childhoods, of growing up, of their father, who was always at work on a new book, always at the margins of their lives. Contradictory, critical, loving and accusatory memories piece together an intimate picture of this most public of men. To say nothing of Marie, Grass's assistant, a family friend of many years, perhaps even a lover, whose snapshots taken with an old-fashioned Agfa box camera provide the author with ideas for his work. But her images offer much more. They reveal a truth beyond the ordinary detail of life, depict the future, tell what might have been and grant the wishes - in visual form - of those photographed. The children speculate on the nature of this magic: was the enchanted camera a source of inspiration for their father? Did it represent the power of art itself? Was it the eye of God?

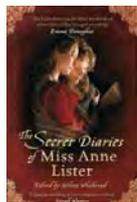


The Secret Diaries of Miss Anne Lister

Helena WHITBREAD

448pp Pb \$29.99

Anne Lister defied the role of womanhood seen in the novels of Jane Austen: she was bold, fiercely independent, a landowner, industrialist, traveller - and lesbian. She kept extensive diaries, written partly in code, of her life and loves. The diaries have been edited by Helena Whitbread, who spent years decoding and transcribing them. Lister was a woman exercising conscious choice; she controlled her cash and her body. At a time when women had to marry, or be looked after by a male relative, and when all their property on marriage passed to their husband, she not only dodged the traps of being female, she set up a liaison with another woman that enhanced her own wealth and left both of them free to live as they wished.

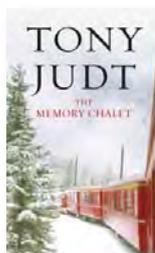


The Memory Chalet

Tony JUDT

240pp Hb \$45.00

In this unique memoir, each essay charts some experience or remembrance of the past through the sieve of Judt's prodigious mind. His youthful love of a particular London bus route evolves into a reflection on public civility and interwar urban planning. Memories of the 1968 student riots of Paris meander through the divergent sex politics of Europe, before concluding that his generation "was a revolutionary generation, but missed the revolution". A series of roadtrips across America lead not just to an appreciation of American history, but to an eventual acquisition of citizenship. Foods and trains and long-lost smells all compete for his attention; but for us, he has forged his reflections into an elegant arc of analysis.



The English Opium Eater

A Biography of Thomas De Quincey

Robert MORRISON

488pp Tp \$39.99

De Quincey's friendships with leading poets and men of letters in the Romantic and Victorian periods - including William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Thomas Carlyle - have long placed him at the centre of 19th century literary studies. He also stands at the meeting point in the culture wars between Edinburgh and London; high art and popular taste; devotees of the Romantic imagination and those of hack journalism. His writing was a tremendous influence on Edgar Allan Poe, Charles Dickens and William Burroughs. But it was his attitude to drug-induced creativity that is the source of curiosity. "Morrison does a superb job of literary detection, going through a life of lies, procrastination and deceit, and teasing out whatever truth there is to be had." - *The Guardian*



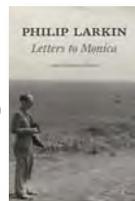
Philip Larkin

Letters to Monica

Anthony THWAITE (Ed)

600pp Hb \$49.99

Philip Larkin met Monica Jones at University College, Leicester, in autumn 1946, when they were both 24; he was the newly-appointed assistant librarian and she was an English lecturer. In 1950, he moved to Belfast and thence to Hull, while she remained in Leicester, becoming by turns his correspondent, lover and closest confidante, in a relationship which lasted over 40 years until his death in 1985. This remarkable, previously unpublished correspondence only came to light after Monica's death in 2001, and consists of thousands of letters, postcards and telegrams, which chronicle - day by day, sometimes hour by hour - every aspect of Larkin's life and the convolutions of their relationship.



Wonder Cats

Ashley MORGAN

204pp Pb \$19.99

Scarlett, the brave mother cat who went into a burning building five times to rescue her kittens. Oscar, the nursing-home cat who senses when residents are about to die and comforts them in their final hours. Felix, the resourceful feline who survived an epic journey trapped in a shipping container. How much do we really know about the abilities of domestic cats? Whether they're using up one of their nine lives to make a lucky escape or demonstrating unusual talents, cats are full of surprises...



Dogs

Gods

Tim FLACH 216pp Hb \$40

This is Flach's stunning follow-up to the critically acclaimed *Equus* (Hb \$100), applying the same wildly creative vision he first gave to horses, to dogs. Using photographs of dogs both solitary and in groups, as well as in varied settings and locations, he uses his lens to present an inimitable and engaging portrait of the physical and spiritual lives of dogs (breeds and crossbreeds of all types) around the globe.





Song of Wrath

The Peloponnesian War Begins: The Ten Years' War Between Athens and Sparta
J E LENDON

576pp Hb \$55.00

In the late 5th century BC, ancient Greece was rent by a series of terrible wars. For 10 years (431-21 BC), the Athenians and Spartans, and their respective allies, fought against each other without rest. The many invasions, sea battles, raids and defilements that took place over the decade were undertaken less with a design to defeat the enemy than to humiliate him. In thrilling narrative, Lendon portrays a war of extraordinary importance in world history, which also offers a great opportunity to answer questions both contemporary and ancient: How do democracies conduct wars? How do the realities of war influence the goals and methods of war? And, finally, how do a war's causes and conduct both guide and hamper the search for peace? This is a muscular historical narrative packed with battles on land and sea, desperate sieges and acts of political futility.



Catherine of Aragon Henry's Spanish Queen

Giles TREMLETT

352pp Hb \$45.00

The image of Catherine of Aragon has always suffered in comparison to the vivacious eroticism of Anne Boleyn. But when Henry VIII married Catherine, she was an auburn-haired beauty in her 20s with a passion she had inherited from her parents, Isabella and Ferdinand, the joint rulers of Spain who had driven the Moors from their country. This daughter of conquistadors showed the same steel and sense of command when organising the defeat of the Scots at the Battle of Flodden, and Henry was to learn, to his cost, that he had not met a tougher opponent on or off the battlefield when he tried to divorce her. This new biography is the first in more than four decades to be dedicated entirely and uniquely to the tenacious woman whose marriage lasted twice as long as those of Henry's five other wives put together. It draws on fresh material from Spain to trace the dramatic events of Catherine's life through her own eyes.



The Last Crusaders East, West and the Battle for the Centre of the World

Barnaby ROGERSON

512pp Tp \$32.99

This is a timely history of the battle for the Mediterranean in the 15th and 16th centuries by the forces of Islam and Christendom. It deals with the titanic contest between Hapsburg-led Christendom and the Ottoman Empire in the 15th and 16th centuries, the last great conflict between East and West - the battles that were fought and the men who led the armies that fought them. It was, in its way, the First World War.



GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE - ANY AMOUNT

The Last Empress Madame Chiang Kai-shek and the Birth of Modern China

Hannah PAKULA

848pp Tp \$35.00

Beautiful, powerful and sexy, Madame Chiang Kai-shek was at the centre of one of the great dramas of the 20th century: the founding of modern China, beginning with a revolution that swept away more than 2,000 years of monarchy, followed by WWII and ending in eventual loss to the Communists and exile in Taipei. An epic historical tapestry, this beautifully wrought narrative revolves around a fascinating, manipulative woman and her family, who, along with their partners in marriage, helped drag China into the modern world. Soong May-ling, or Madame Chiang as she was known, died in 2003 at the age of 106 - a formidable woman. As her husband came to represent the hopes of the West in the East, she acted as his adviser, English translator, secretary and most loyal champion, finding herself on the world stage with Franklin D Roosevelt and Winston Churchill. A savvy politician, she remained a popular if controversial figure both at home and abroad. Pakula brilliantly narrates the life of this extraordinary woman - how she charmed the United States out of billions of dollars while remaining dedicated to her China, and how she managed to influence the history of the 20th century.

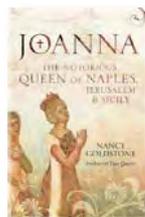


Joanna The Notorious Queen of Naples, Jerusalem and Sicily

Nancy GOLDSTONE

392pp Hb \$49.99

On 15 March 1348, Joanna I, Queen of Naples, stood trial for her life before the pope and his court in Avignon. She was 22 years old. Her cousin and husband, Prince Andrew of Hungary, had recently been murdered and Joanna was the chief suspect. Determined to defend herself, she won her acquittal against enormous odds. Returning to Naples, she ruled over one of Europe's most prestigious and enlightened courts for more than 30 years - until she was also murdered... As courageous as Eleanor of Aquitaine, as astute and determined as Elizabeth I, Joanna was the only female monarch in her time to rule in her own right. While a procession of the most important artists and writers of her day found patronage at her glittering court, the turmoil of her times swirled around her: war, plague, intrigue and the treachery that would ultimately bring her down.

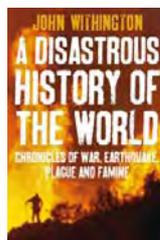


A Disastrous History of the World Chronicles of War, Earthquake, Plague and Famine

John WITHINGTON

400pp Pb \$24.99

Tsunamis, earthquakes, floods, bird flu, international terrorism - the world seems to get more dangerous by the day. Or does it? This disturbing yet fascinating new book describes the worst things that have happened on Earth from the dawn of man to the present day.



Bridge of Spies

Giles WHITTELL

304pp Tp \$35.00

This is the true story of one of the most dramatic and mythologised moments of the Cold War - the famous spy swap in Berlin. A gripping, entertaining, hair-raising and comical story, it moves effortlessly from the hardware of high-flying planes and new missiles to the geopolitics of the nuclear stand-off and through the poignant personal stories of its central protagonists: Powers, the all-American hero, blacklisted for not having killed himself on his descent to earth; a KGB spy who has spent aimless and lonely years achieving nothing in the US; and the opposing leaders Khrushchev and Eisenhower, both trapped in a spiral of confrontation neither wants. Telling the true story that inspired Le Carre's famous scene, this is a brilliant take on the absurdity and heroism of the Cold War days that will appeal to a new generation of readers unfamiliar with the history, but drawn in by the compelling and vividly recreated narrative.

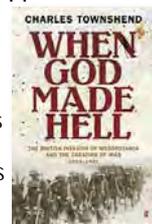


When God Made Hell

The British Invasion of Mesopotamia and the Creation of Iraq, 1914-1921

Charles TOWNSHEND 320pp Hb \$55.00

Since 2003, Iraq has rarely left the headlines. But less discussed is the fact that Iraq as we know it was created by the British in one of the most dramatic interventions in recent history. A cautious strategic invasion by British forces led - within seven years - to imperial expansion on a dizzying scale, with fateful consequences for the Middle East and the world. Townshend charts Britain's path from one of its worst military disasters to extraordinary success with largely unintended consequences, through over-confidence, incompetence and dangerously vague policy. With monumental research and exceptionally vivid accounts of on-the-ground warfare, this is a truly gripping account of the Mesopotamia campaign and its place in the wider political and international context.

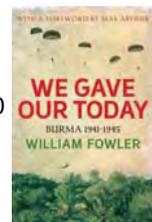


We Gave Our Today Burma 1941-1945

William FOWLER

304pp Tp \$35.00

Nearly a million strong by 1944, the British 14th Army fought and ultimately conquered the Japanese forces that invaded Burma and strove to break through into India. But the victory was hard won, with great suffering along the way. With priority given to defeating Germany, these troops were last in line for additional men and equipment, and they joked about being "The Forgotten Army." Here is the story of these remarkable soldiers, whose monument at Kohima reads: "When You Go Home, Tell Them of Us and Say, For Their Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today."



Congratulations to Michael Wholohan, the winner of our **Street Fight in Naples** competition.



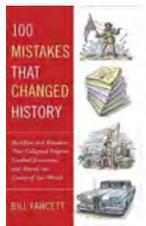
100 Mistakes that Changed History

Backfires and Blunders that Collapsed Empires, Crashed Economies, and Altered the Course of Our World

Bill FAWCETT

400pp Pb \$19.95

From the Maginot Line to the Bay of Pigs invasion, history is filled with bad moves and not-so-bright ideas that snowballed into disasters and unintended consequences. This engrossing book looks at 100 such tipping points. Japan bombs Pearl Harbour. Rome farms out its fighting to barbarians. The Aztecs greet the conquistadors with open arms. And the rest is history...



Hitler's First War

Adolf Hitler, the Men of the List Regiment, and the First World War

Thomas WEBER

464pp Hb \$52.95

Hitler claimed that his years as a soldier in WWI were the most formative of his life. However, his time as a soldier on the Western Front has, remarkably, remained a blank spot. All that we knew about his life in these years and the regiment in which he served came from his own account in *Mein Kampf* (Pb \$49.95) and the equally mythical accounts of his comrades. Weber looks at what really happened to Private Hitler and the men of the Bavarian List Regiment of which he was a member. Through the stories of the veterans of the regiment, an officer who became Hitler's personal adjutant in the 1930s but then offered himself to British intelligence, a soldier-turned-Concentration Camp Commander, Jewish veterans who fell victim to the Holocaust, and veterans who simply returned to their lives in Bavaria, we find a Hitler who was shunned by the frontline soldiers of his regiment as a "rear area pig" and who was still unsure of his political ideology even at the end of the war. In looking at the post-war lives of Hitler's fellow veterans back in Bavaria, Weber also challenges the commonly accepted notion that WWI was somehow a 'seminal catastrophe' in 20th century German history and questions just how deep-seated Nazi ideology really was in its home state.



7 Events that Made America America

And Proved that the Founding Fathers Were Right All Along

Larry SCHWEIKART

272pp Hb \$34.95

Students of American history know the big events that dramatically shaped its history. The Civil War, Pearl Harbour, the assassination of John F Kennedy, and 9/11 are just a few. But there are other, less famous events that had an equally profound impact. Schweikart takes an in-depth look at seven of these transformative moments and provides an analysis of how each of them spurred a trend that either confirmed or departed from the vision the Founding Fathers had for America. For instance, he shows how Martin Van Buren's creation of a national political party made it possible for Obama to get elected almost two centuries later and how Dwight Eisenhower's heart attack led to a war on red meat, during which the government took control of Americans' diets.



America, Hitler and the UN

How the Allies Won World War II and Forged a Peace

Dan PLESCH

272pp Hb \$49.95

On 1 January 1942, Churchill and Roosevelt issued a 'Declaration by United Nations' with 24 other states. This marked the beginning of the UN in a real and tangible form. Yet today many people have forgotten that the UN was forged in the midst of the confusion and complexity of wartime. How did the armies of the UN cooperate in the final years of WWII to contain - and ultimately reverse - Nazi expansionism? And when and for what purpose did the UN undertake to tackle the international economic and social challenges, not only of warfare, but of a post-war world transformed beyond recognition? Drawing on previously unknown material from the UN archives, Plesch analyses responses at all levels of society, from high level political elites to the grass roots level. Arguing that the Allied defeat of Nazism should properly be called a UN victory, he has pieced together the full story of how the UN intervened in surprising ways at a pivotal time in European history.



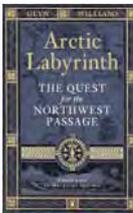
Arctic Labyrinth

The Quest for the Northwest Passage

Glyn WILLIAMS

464pp Pb \$24.95

For centuries, British navigators dreamt of finding the Northwest Passage - the route over the top of North America that would open up the fabulous wealth of Asia to British merchants. We know now that, while several such passages exist, during the period of the search by sailing vessels they were choked by impassable ice. But this knowledge was slowly won, as expedition after expedition, under the most terrible conditions, gradually filled in the sailors' patchy and sometimes fatally misleading charts. Williams tells this extraordinary story with great skill. From the tiny, woefully equipped ships of the first Tudor expeditions to the icebreakers and nuclear submarines of the modern era, he describes how every form of ingenuity has been used to break through or try to get round the nightmarish ice barriers set in a maze of sterile islands. The heroism, folly and horror of these voyages seem almost unbelievable, with entire ships crushed, mass starvation, epics of endurance - all in pursuit of a goal that ultimately proved futile.



The Cambridge Companion to Modern British Culture

Michael HIGGINS, Clarissa SMITH & John STOREY (Eds) 340pp Pb \$49.95

British culture today is the product of a shifting combination of tradition and experimentation, national identity and regional and ethnic diversity. These distinctive tensions are expressed in a range of cultural arenas, such as art, sport, journalism, fashion, education and race. This Companion addresses these and other major aspects of British culture, offering a sophisticated understanding of what it means to study and think about the diverse cultural landscapes of contemporary Britain. Each contributor looks at the language through which culture is formed and expressed, the political and institutional trends that shape culture and the role of culture in daily life.



A History of Scotland

Neil OLIVER 504pp Pb \$27.99

Scotland is one of the oldest countries in the world with a vivid and diverse past. Yet the stories and figures that dominate Scottish history - tales of failure, submission, thwarted ambition and tragedy - often badly serve this great nation, overshadowing the rich tapestry of her intricate past. Oliver presents a compelling new portrait of Scottish history, peppered with action, high drama and centuries of turbulence that have helped to shape modern Scotland. Along the way, he takes in iconic landmarks and historic architecture; debunks myths surrounding Scotland's famous sons; recalls forgotten battles; charts the growth of patriotism; and explores recent political developments, capturing Scotland's sense of identity and celebrating her place in the wider world.

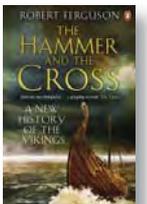


The Hammer and the Cross

A New History of the Vikings

Robert FERGUSON 464pp Pb \$26.95

For those living outside Scandinavia, the Viking Age effectively began in 793 with an attack on the monastery at Lindisfarne, a characteristically violent harbinger of what was in store for Britain and much of Europe from the Vikings for the next 300 years, until the final destruction of the heathen temple to the Norse gods at Uppsala around 1090. Ferguson is a sure guide across what he calls "the treacherous marches which divide legend from fact in Viking Age history". His familiarity with the literary culture of Scandinavia is combined with the latest archaeological discoveries and evidence of picture-stones, runes, ships and objects scattered all over northern Europe, to make a convincing modern portrait of the Viking Age. He takes us on a journey to a misty region inhabited by Halfred the Troublesome Poet, Harald Bluetooth, Ragnar Hairy-Breeches, Ivar the Boneless and Eyvind the Plagiarist, in which literature, history and myth dissolve into one another!

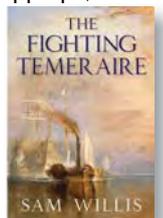


The Fighting Temeraire

Sam WILLIS

416pp Tp \$36.99

Willis tells the real-life story behind Turner's 1838 masterpiece, *The Fighting Temeraire*. The 98-gun *Temeraire* warship broke through the French and Spanish line directly astern of Nelson's flagship *Victory* during the Battle of Trafalgar (1805), saving Nelson at a crucial moment in the battle and, in the words of John Ruskin, "fought until her sides ran wet with the long runlets of English blood...those pale masts that stayed themselves up against the war-ruin, shaking out their ensigns through the thunder, till sail and ensign dropped." It is a story that unites the art of war as practised by Nelson with the art of war as depicted by Turner and, as such, it ranges across an extensive period of Britain's cultural and military history in ways that other stories do not. The result is a detailed picture of British maritime power at two of its most significant peaks in the age of sail: the climaxes of both the Seven Years' War (1756-63) and the Napoleonic Wars (1798-1815). It covers every aspect of life in the sailing navy, with particular emphasis on amphibious warfare, disease, victualling, blockade, mutiny and fleet battle.





**Bligh in Australia
A New Appraisal of
William Bligh and the
Rum Rebellion**

Russell Earls DAVIS
192pp Pb \$24.95

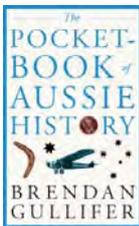
This fascinating account of early Australia focuses on Governor William Bligh. The Rum Rebellion has, for generations, been told to school children as one of the better stories of Australian history - how Bligh was a tyrant deposed by the New South Wales Corps and dragged out from his hiding place under a bed. It has even been said (and this is just as far from the truth), that the overthrowing of Governor Bligh was a victory for democracy and colonial self-government. Years of attempting to make Australian history interesting for adolescent boys, and subsequently training to be a lawyer, have prepared Davis for the task of writing a readable account of Bligh's time in Australia.



**The Pocketbook of
Aussie History**

Brendan GULLIFER
112pp Pb \$9.95

When was the first Melbourne cup, and which horse won? Who was the first woman to stand for federal parliament? What is the second verse of Advance Australia Fair? And why was Vegemite renamed Parwill in 1928? Here, in one handy reference, are the dates and deeds, the heroes and villains, the icons and famous words that have shaped our country and its place in the world. Full of useful facts and a healthy dose of irreverence, this is an entertaining guide to Australia's curious past.



Boyer Lectures 2010

**The Republic of Learning
Higher Education Transforms Australia**

Glyn DAVIS 112pp Pb \$24.99
The 51st Boyer Lecture series explores Australia's higher education landscape, revealing an experience sharply at odds with traditional images of sleepy cloisters and ivory towers.

**Admiral Arthur
Phillip, the Man**

Lyn FERGUSSON
257pp Hb \$39.95

Did Captain Arthur Phillip have French blood? Historians have always supposed he was of German extraction. Fergusson introduces the possibility that Phillip was of French Huguenot descent. Careful examination of the Portuguese Rebello Transcripts provides clarification of Phillip's service with the Portuguese Navy and subsequent visits to South America. His name frequently disappeared from Admiralty records, inexplicable until his service as an agent in France for the Home Office became apparent. His time as Commander of the Sea Fencibles is covered, as is his retirement and the mystery surrounding his death. This biography concentrates on the man, clearly illustrating the character of New South Wales' first governor. It puts to rest any notion that his capabilities were unknown to the British Government when commissioned to lead an expedition of such magnitude to the far side of the world. Includes a foreword by the 37th governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir.

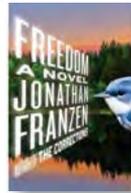


Our Staff Favourites from 2010

FICTION

Freedom

by Jonathan Franzen Tp \$32.99
Huge family saga, involving and moving.



Major Pettigrew's Last Stand

by Helen Simonson Pb \$23.99
Gentle, tender, observant comedy of manners and morals.

Bereft by Chris Womersley Tp \$32.95

A wonderfully written, beautifully imagined novel.

Even the Dogs by John McGregor Pb \$22.99
McGregor's unique writing style sucks you in from the first page. Instantly the characters are your friends, your family - you weep for them, you laugh with them - and you miss them.

Hand Me Down World by Lloyd Jones Tp \$32.95

Topical, tragic and ultimately hopeful story of an African mother.

The Lacuna by Barbara Kingsolver Pb \$23.99
What can you say about a novel featuring Trotsky, Frida Kahlo & J Edgar?

Imperial Bedrooms

by Brett Easton Ellis Tp \$32.99
A novel of such ambition that it leaves you gasping. Love it or hate it (Easton Ellis fans are divided once again), you won't stop thinking about it for months.



The Passage by Justin Cronin Tp \$35

Vampire plague annihilates American society, survivors fight back, awesome.

Nourishment by Gerard Woodward Tp \$32.99
Unusual, very funny, satisfying story.

To the End of the Land

by David Grossman Tp \$35.00
A simply glorious novel.

Zero History by William Gibson Tp \$32.95
Very quirky, incident-packed alternative fiction with serious societal repercussions.

Suddenly by Bonnie Burnard Pb \$29.99
A beautifully written novel of friendship, dying and letting go.

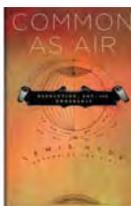
Mr Rosenblum's List

by Natasha Solomons Pb \$22.99
A quirky novel with a truly deep heart of sadness and joy.

NON-FICTION

**Common as Air:
Revolution, Art and Ownership**

by Lewis Hyde Hb \$39.95
In questioning "intellectual property", Hyde has created a most timely, engaging and well-informed read.



**The Age of Entanglement: When Quantum
Physics was Reborn** by Louisa Gilder Pb \$27.95

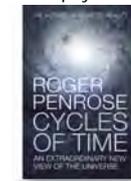
Serious science written in a very lucid, polished style.

**Cultures of War: Pearl Harbor / Hiroshima /
9-11 / Iraq** by John W Dower Hb \$49.95

The juxtaposition of Pearl Harbour and 9/11 makes for fascinating reading as the shock of having been attacked made its impact on the American psyche.

**Cycles of Time: An Extraordinary
New View of the Universe**

by Roger Penrose Hb \$55.00
Whether you are convinced, or just intrigued, it is hard to ignore someone of the intellectual stature of Roger Penrose.

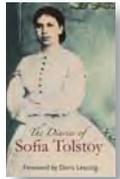


Delicious: More Please by Valli Little Pb \$39.99

Delicious magazine is the most popular food magazine in Australia, and the books never disappoint. Every recipe is a simple delight. It will literally leave you saying "more please".

The Diaries of Sofia Tolstoy

by Sofia Tolstoy Pb \$29.95
Heartbreaking and revealing - being the wife of a great writer and prophet was no easy matter, let alone mother to a large family.



The Eerie Silence

by Paul Davies Hb \$49.95
A history of the search for extraterrestrial intelligence and how we can do it differently in the future.

The Fry Chronicles: An Autobiography

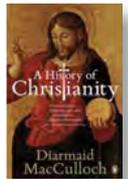
by Stephen Fry Hb \$39.95
There isn't an Englishman alive who can compete with Fry and his word wit, wisdom and wry wrangling of woe. I flicked between this and the dictionary, but I wouldn't have had it any other way! Loved the book, Love the man.

**Heidegger and a Hippo Walk Through Those
Pearly Gates: Using Philosophy (and Jokes!) to
Explore Life, Death, the Afterlife and Everything
in Between**

by Thomas Cathcart & Daniel Klein Pb \$14.95
Jokes you just want to share with someone, thoughts you will keep for later.

A History of Christianity:

The First Three Thousand Years
by Diarmaid MacCulloch Pb \$29.95
An informed and entertaining look at the struggle of ideas, culture, interpretation and politics that have shaped our predominant religious heritage.



How to Make Gravy by Paul Kelly Hb \$49.95
Not enough that he's the best songwriter in the country, but also a damn fine stylist of the written word as well!

The Most Powerful Idea in the World

by William Rosen Hb \$49.95
A very readable account of why the Industrial Revolution happened when and where it did.

**One Very Big Picture: A Short History of the
Past that is Shaping our Future**

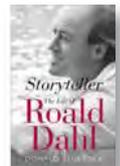
by Syd Hickman Pb \$19.95
A lightning fast journey through history with an interesting point.

Pathfinders: The Golden Age of Arabic Science

by Jim Al-Khalili Hb \$55.00
Identifies the remarkable achievements of Arabic-speaking scientists and scholars from the 9th to the 13th century, and their influence on modern Western science.

Storyteller:

The Life of Roald Dahl
by Donald Sturrock Tp \$35.00
A book for all tastes - tales of derring-do as well as espionage, love affairs and literary adventures.



Sydney by Delia Falconer Hb \$29.95
This perceptive and imaginative book provides a fresh, yet familiar, idea of Sydney, an atmospheric portrayal of an elusive subject.

**Wait for Me! Memoirs of the
Youngest Mitford Sister**

by Deborah Devonshire Pb \$35
The Mitfords are always entertaining, but in this wonderful book you also get the rebirth of a famous country house - Chatsworth.

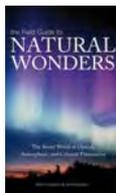




The Field Guide to Natural Wonders

The Secret World of Optical, Atmospheric, and Celestial Phenomena

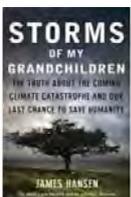
Keith HEIDORN & Ian WHITELAW 224pp Pb \$24.99



An engaging and beautifully presented guide to nature's most theatrical and mysterious events. From optical phenomena, such as rainbows and light pillars, to celestial phenomena like eclipses and the aurora borealis, it explores a wide range of natural wonders, describing each one in detail and explaining the science behind them in simple, non-technical terms.

Storms of My Grandchildren The Truth About the Coming Climate Catastrophe and Our Last Chance to Save Humanity

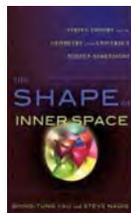
James HANSEN 320pp Pb \$24.99



Hansen, the world's leading scientist on climate issues, speaks out for the first time with the full truth about global warming: the planet is hurtling even more rapidly than previously acknowledged to a climatic point of no return. Although Hansen was Al Gore's science advisor for *An Inconvenient Truth*, his recent data shows our situation is even more dire. But politicians haven't made the connection between the policy and the science. He shows why Gore's solution won't work, why we must phase out all coal, and the goals we must achieve in the next two decades if our grandchildren are to avoid global meltdown.

The Shape of Inner Space String Theory and the Geometry of the Universe's Hidden Dimensions

Shing-Tung YAU & Steve NADIS 400pp Tp \$29.99



What if you were told we actually live in a 10-dimensional universe, and that only four dimensions are accessible to our everyday senses? How do we account for the other six? What do they look like, where are they hiding and what, if anything at all, do they do? The authors unpack the widely-held belief that these undetected dimensions are tightly curled in elaborate, twisted shapes called Calabi-Yau manifolds. These spaces are so minuscule that humans will probably never see any of them directly. Amazingly, however, this hidden realm may hold the answers to some of the most profound questions we have about our universe.

1089 and All That A Journey into Mathematics

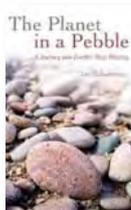
David ACHESON 184pp Pb \$24.95



Acheson's extraordinary little book makes mathematics accessible to everyone. Via Kepler and Newton, he explains what calculus really means, gives a brief history of pi, and even takes us to chaos theory and imaginary numbers. Every short chapter is carefully crafted to ensure no one gets lost on the journey. Packed with puzzles and illustrated by world famous cartoonists, this is one of the most readable and imaginative books on mathematics ever written.

The Planet in a Pebble A Journey into Earth's Deep History

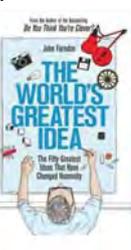
Jan ZALASIEWICZ 256pp Hb \$44.95



This is a narrative of the Earth's long and dramatic history, as gleaned from a single pebble. It begins as the pebble particles form amid unimaginable violence in distant realms of the Universe, in the Big Bang and in supernova explosions and continues amid the construction of the Solar System. Many events in the Earth's ancient past can be deciphered from a pebble: volcanic eruptions; the lives and deaths of extinct animals and plants; the alien nature of long-vanished oceans; and transformations deep underground, including the creations of fool's gold and oil. Many stories are crammed into each and every pebble around us.

The World's Greatest Idea The Fifty Greatest Ideas That Have Changed Humanity

John FARNDON 256pp Hb \$29.99



Where would humanity be now without fire, vaccinations, farming - or wine? A great idea is one that has changed the path of human civilisation. But which is the greatest of them all? The author of the bestselling *Do You Think You're Clever?* (Pb \$22.99), has set out to find the answer. A distinguished panel of experts agreed on a list of 50 ideas and each chapter sees Farndon explore the argument for a different one. The candidates are intriguingly varied: Electricity grids enable us to power our cities, then sewers allowed those cities to grow. Without the wheel, modern civilisation would be pretty much impossible, but take away Logic and we'd lose the essential structures for rational thought... And what would be the point of all this without the idea of romance? This is an enthralling voyage of discovery through the most powerful intellectual, social, scientific and creative brainwaves humans have ever had.

Not Your Ordinary Doctor

Jim LEAVESLEY 368pp Pb \$27.99



Throughout history, many doctors have worked outside the occupation for which they were originally trained. This book reveals 60 such medical truants who found fame in fields other than medicine. Meet Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's inspiration for Sherlock Holmes; cringe as Stalin tortures each of his eight doctors; follow John Keats, who abandons medicine to pursue his literary career. Here are doctors who attended Elizabeth I, Napoleon and Alexander the Great; artists, musicians and writers such as Somerset Maugham and Anton Chekhov; and on a darker note, mass murderers like Hastings Banda and Buck Ruxton.

The Species Seekers Heroes, Fools and the Mad Pursuit of Life on Earth

Richard CONNIF 400pp Hb \$34.95

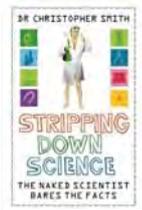


This is the story of the adventurers who risked death to discover strange life forms in the farthest corners of Earth. Beginning with Linnaeus, a colourful band of explorers made it their mission to travel and bring back astonishing new life forms. Conniff brings these daredevil 'species seekers' to life. Alongside their globe-spanning tales of adventure, he recounts some of the most dramatic shifts in the history of human thought. At the start, everyone accepted that the Earth had been created for our benefit. People weren't sure where vegetable ended and animal began, they couldn't classify species and didn't understand the causes of disease. But all that changed as the species seekers introduced us to the pantheon of life on Earth and our place within it.

Stripping Down Science

The Naked Scientist Bares the Facts

Dr Christopher SMITH 316pp Pb \$24.95



Why does a lap dancer earn bigger tips when she's at her most fertile? Can just the whiff of a woman send a man's hormones surging? And were dinosaurs hot-blooded too? Is it true that diet portions actually make people fatter? Can toads really predict earthquakes? And what causes those ...what's the word I'm looking for ...tip-of-the-tongue experiences? Thankfully not lost for words in this enlightening and humorous foray into the world of science, Dr Smith strips down science to its bare essentials to sort fact from fiction and replace myths and misinformation with some seriously interesting medical, technological and biological breakthroughs.

Parrots of the World

Joseph FORSHAW, Frank KNIGHT (Illus) 336pp Pb \$39.95



From the macaws of South America to the cockatoos of Australia, parrots are among the most beautiful and exotic birds in the world and also among the most endangered. This stunningly illustrated, easy-to-use field guide covers all 356 species and well-differentiated subspecies of parrots and is the only guide organised by geographical distribution; Australasian, Afro-Asian and neotropical. Features 146 superb colour plates depicting every kind of parrot, as well as detailed, facing-page species accounts that describe key identification features, distribution, subspeciation, habitat and status. Field identification is further aided by relevant upperside and underside flight images. This premier field guide also shows where to observe each species in the wild, helping make this the most comprehensive and user-friendly guide to the parrots of the world.

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**All the Devils are Here
The Hidden History of the
Financial Crisis**

Bethany McLEAN & Joe NOCERA 400pp Tp \$32.95

According to the authors, two of America's most acclaimed business journalists, no-one has put all the pieces of the financial crisis together. The finger was pointed at greedy traders, cowardly legislators and clueless home buyers, but many devils helped bring hell to the economy. This book goes back several decades to explore the motivations of everyone from CEOs and politicians to anonymous lenders, borrowers and Wall Street traders. It exposes the hidden role of companies including AIG and Goldman Sachs and delves into the powerful mythology of homeownership. And it proves that the crisis ultimately wasn't about finance at all; it was about human nature.



**Good Boss, Bad Boss
How to be the Best...
and Learn from the Worst**

Robert SUTTON 256pp Tp \$32.99

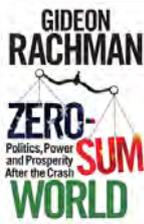
Inspired by the thousands of emails, calls and conversations that Sutton received after publishing his bestseller *The No Asshole Rule* (Pb \$22.99), he found that most of the stories and cries for help he received revolved around one central figure in every workplace: The Boss. These heart-breaking, inspiring and sometimes funny stories taught him that most bosses, and their followers, wanted a lot more than just a jerk-free workplace. They aspired to become (or work for) an all-around great boss, somebody with the skill and grit to inspire superior work, commitment and dignity among their charges. As he digs into the nitty-gritty of what the best (and worst) bosses do, he finds there is a hallmark of great bosses: They work doggedly to "stay in tune" with their charges and react to what they say and do. If you want to understand how the best bosses think and act so you can get better at your job or find a better boss to work for, this book has all the answers.



**Zero-Sum World
Politics, Power and
Prosperity After the Crash**

Gideon RACHMAN 288pp Tp \$35.00

The economic crisis that struck the world in 2008 has drastically altered the logic of international relations. Globalisation no longer benefits all the world's superpowers and they face an array of global problems that are causing division between nations. A win-win world is giving way to a zero-sum world. Zero-sum logic, in which one country's gain looks like another's loss, has prevented the world from reaching an agreement to fight climate change and threatens to create a global economic stalemate. These new tensions are intensified by the emergence of dangerous political and economic problems that risk provoking wars, environmental catastrophe and ever-deeper debilitating economic crises. This timely and important book argues that international politics is about to become much more volatile - and explains what can be done to break away from the crippling logic of a zero-sum world.



**Whoops!
Why Everyone Owes Everyone
and No One Can Pay**

John LANCHESTER 256pp Pb \$24.95

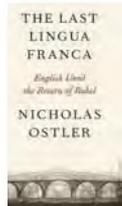
We are, to use a technical economic term, screwed. The cowboy capitalists had a party with everyone's money and now we're all paying for it. What went wrong? And will we learn our lesson, or just carry on as before, like celebrating surviving a heart attack with a packet of Rothmans? If you want to know, but are the sort of person who finds it hard to tell the difference between a CDO, a CDS, an MBS and a toasted cheese sandwich, Lanchester has mastered the finer points of finance so you don't have to. He explains, in language everyone can understand, what really happened - and what on earth we do next.



**WORDS
The Last Lingua Franca
English Until the Return of Babel**

Nicholas OSTLER 352pp Hb \$39.95

Ostler challenges our assumption that English will continue to dominate as the global lingua franca. Drawing on his encyclopedic knowledge of world languages and their history, he reveals that just as past great languages like Latin and Sanskrit have died out, so English will follow. For the last four centuries, the dominant world power has been English-speaking, but the global balance of power is shifting. And in countries like Brazil, Russia and China, English plays no part in the national tradition. Although globalisation has helped the rise of English, trade, migration, economic development and technological innovation are now changing the way we access and use language.



**How to Read a Word
Elizabeth KNOWLES 208pp Hb \$34.95**

Have you ever wondered how you can find out more about a word: Where did it come from? How has its meaning altered? How can it be pronounced? Language is not fixed, but is an evolutionary process: words develop and change, in meaning, association and pronunciation. Knowles shows us how we might delve into the origins, associations and evolution of words, and is primarily concerned with the following two points: what questions can be asked about a word? And how can they be answered? Utilising the unrivalled resources and language-monitoring programs of the Oxford English Dictionary, she leads us through the various stages of investigation into the myriad aspects of individual words, from etymology to date of first use and regional distribution, and from spelling and pronunciation to shifts in meaning.

**I Can Resist Everything
Except Temptation
The Wicked Wit of Oscar Wilde**

Oscar WILDE, Maria LEACH (Ed) 192pp Hb \$24.99

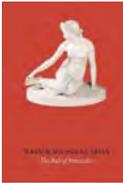
This is a celebration of the virtuoso of well-turned phrases and the master of the studied insult - Oscar Wilde. It shows us why, 100 years after his death, people of every age and from different walks of life are drawn to his dazzling repartee and the wicked brilliance of his social observations.



**The Bed of Procrustes
Philosophical and
Practical Aphorisms**

Nassim Nicholas TALEB 128pp Hb \$24.95

Procrustes was a character from Greek mythology who abducted travellers and invited them to spend the night in a special bed, which they had to fit to perfection. They never did. Those who were too tall had their legs chopped off; those who were too short were stretched. Every aphorism here is about a Procrustean bed of sorts - we humans, facing the limits of our knowledge, the unseen and the unknown, resolve the tension by squeezing life and the world into crisp commoditised ideas, reductive categories, specific vocabularies and pre-packaged narratives.



**Talking to the Enemy
Violent Extremism, Sacred Values and
What it Means to be Human**

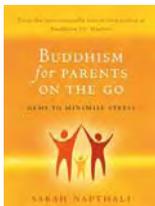
Scott ATRAN 576pp Hb \$39.95

This is an intellectually and personally courageous exploration of one of the most contentious issues of modern times. Atran has spent years talking to terrorists - from Gaza and Afghanistan, to Indonesia and Europe - to help us understand and mitigate the rise of religious violence. Here he argues persuasively that we need to consider terrorists' close relationships, with family and friends, as much as the causes they espouse, and delivers a fascinating journey into the mindsets of radicalised people in the 21st century. Along the way, he also provides deep insights into the history of all religions, and into their evolutionary origins. He shows us, above all, how we have come to be human.

**Buddhism for
Parents on the Go
Gems to Minimise
Stress**

Sarah NAPTHALI 160pp Pb \$19.99

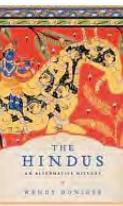
Designed with time-poor parents in mind, this is an easy to digest guide to making the most of being a parent, based on Buddhist principles. Even if exploring Buddhism is not where you thought you'd be right now, read any page and think about its relevance to your life. Make space in your busy days to be kinder to yourself. From advice to the sleep-deprived, dealing with the drama of toddler tantrums or thoughts on teenage egocentrism, this invaluable book explains how to manage the expectations you have of yourself, your partner and your children. It may even help you conquer the day-to-day challenges of life, reduce your stress levels and gain true insight into the ever-changing joys of parenthood.



**The Hindus
An Alternative History
Wendy DONIGER**

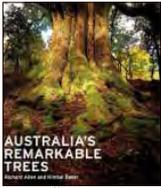
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An engrossing and definitive narrative account of history and myth that offers a new way of understanding one of the world's oldest major religions from one of the world's foremost scholars on Hinduism.



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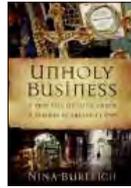
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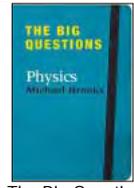
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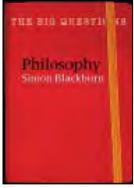
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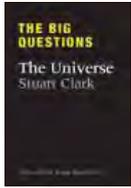
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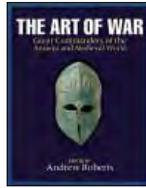
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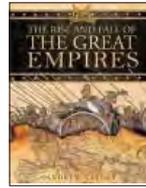
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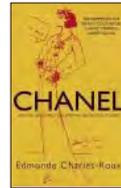
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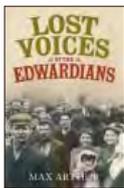
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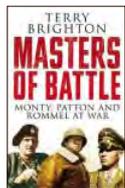
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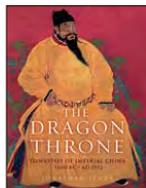
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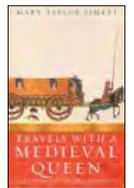
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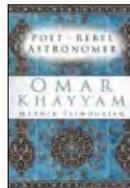
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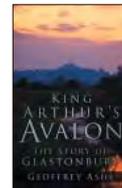
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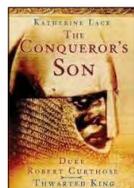
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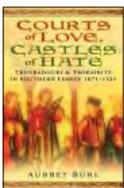
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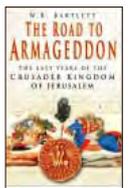
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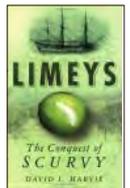
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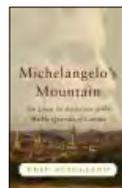
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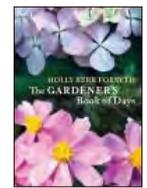
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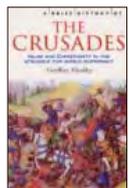
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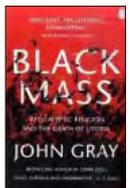
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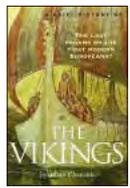
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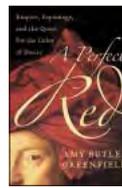
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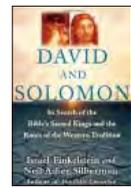
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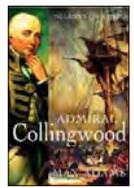
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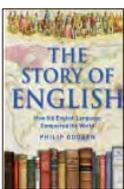
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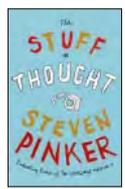
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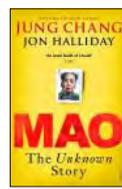
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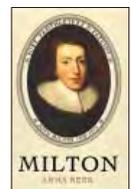
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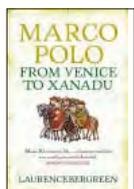
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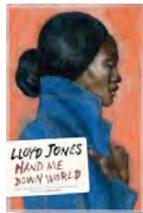
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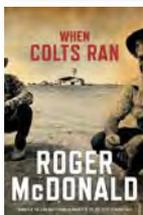
Did you read and enjoy **Mister Pip** (\$23.95 Pb 240pp)? It is set in Bougainville during the civil troubles there. New Zealand writer Lloyd Jones won several awards for this. Now he has written another unusual novel set in Europe. It is called **Hand Me Down World** (\$32.95 Pb 313pp) and I really enjoyed it. An original style, yet still comfortable. The story concerns a young African woman, an illegal immigrant, searching for her son, who was taken from her as a baby by his black German father. The book is written in the voices of various people who have befriended her on her difficult journey from Tunis to Berlin and who have helped her while she lives in Berlin. They are a fascinating collection of characters – even the woman, sometimes called Ines, is interested in them when they are presented to her in prison by the Inspector who has traced her to accuse her of murdering the first person she encountered when she dragged herself from the sea in Italy. We then hear her version of each of these encounters. It is a triumph of observation and empathy. Highly recommended.



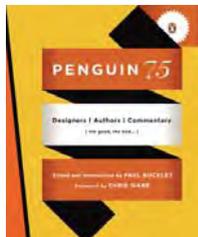
Susan Hill, author of **The Woman in Black** (\$24.95 Pb 176pp), which became a long-running play in London, has produced another gothic novella called **The Small Hand: A Ghost Story** (\$24.99 small Hb 167pp). An enjoyable exercise in nice writing. Also take a look at her very personal reminiscences about books called **Howard's End is on the Landing** (\$24.99 Pb 240pp) in *Literary Criticism*.



Roger McDonald, winner of the *Miles Franklin Award* for **The Ballad of Desmond Kale** (\$24.95 Pb 638pp), has another Heroic Novel, set in Australia from the First World War till after the Second World War. It has the strange title **When Colts Ran** (\$32.95 Pb 343pp), which seems to summon up horses in the high country, but it turns out that Colts is the surname of one of the characters – and not necessarily the main character, as there are many memorable men in this story, which is about male friendships and uncertainties, especially in rural lives. Roger's books are not an easy read, but are worth your attention. I enjoyed this very much.

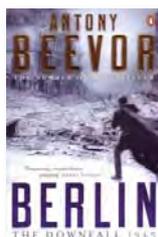


More Penguin memorabilia has arrived, this time to celebrate 75 years, and it was time for me to be perplexed. It is called **Penguin 75: Designers / Authors / Commentary** (\$34.95 Pb 250pp), presenting 75 Penguin covers, along with the personal comments of the designer, author and illustrator. An interesting concept, especially for bibliophiles, booksellers and publishers. I did wonder why so few of the covers were familiar to me, but it seems they are from the American editions. See how far Penguin has travelled from Harmondsworth!

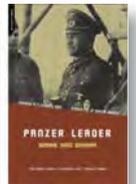


Another interesting Penguin is the reissue, in a facsimile edition, of one of the most famous Penguin Specials, issued during the Second World War. This is **Why Britain is at War** (\$19.95 Pb 160pp) by Harold Nicolson. First published in 1939 during the Phoney War, this was a huge bestseller, especially among the young men joining the army. There is a new introduction by historian Andrew Roberts. The book is well worth reading, not only for Nicolson's clear prose, but also for his ethical stand and his examination of the Hitler phenomenon. Especially interesting to see that in the conclusion he suggests a United States of Europe (although he includes USSR, unlike the current European Union).

Readers who like Military History may have already read these titles in the *Penguin World War II Collection*, but let me remind you again of Antony Beevor's books, **D-Day: The Battle for Normandy** (\$35 Pb 608pp), **Stalingrad** (\$26.95 Pb 493pp) and **Berlin: The Downfall 1945** (\$26.95 Pb 532pp). There are many other classic titles in this collection, including **First Light** by Geoffrey Wellum, about the famous Spitfire pilots (\$26.95 Pb 352pp), James Goodson's **Tumult in the Clouds** (\$26.95 Pb 256pp) and **Dunkirk: Fight to the Last Man** (\$26.95 Pb 744pp) by Hugh Sebag-Montefiore (the brother of that other terrific history writer, Simon Sebag-Montefiore). Another of Hugh's books is **Enigma: The Battle for the Code** (\$27 Pb 528pp), the famous story of the mathematicians at Bletchley Park who worked on breaking the German codes.



Also available again is **Panzer Leader** (\$33 Pb 552pp), the classic memoir of Heinz Guderian, the German general regarded as the master of modern tank warfare. **Eastern Approaches** (\$26.95 Pb 576pp) is about the adventures of Fitzroy MacLean, one of the models for the James Bond stories, fighting alongside Tito in Yugoslavia, capturing the German Consul in Iraq and other amazing exploits.

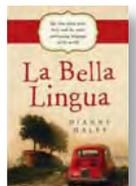


Here's a new history that will also interest military historians, this time about the German-Turkish activities in the Middle East during the First World War, which have always puzzled me. Reviews for this book not only praise the research, but also mention the larger-than-life adventurers taking part, so it looks like one for me. **Berlin-Baghdad Express: The Ottoman Empire and Germany's Bid for World Power** by Sean McMeekin (\$49.95 Hb 496pp) looks like a great read.

Do you like cosy detective fiction? Peter has recommended to me a recent addition to this genre. The author is Charles Finch, whose main character is a mid-Victorian gentleman and amateur detective who does indeed spend much of his time in a cosy study near the fire with tea and toast nearby. There is a touch of Sherlock Holmes and a whiff of Lord Peter Wimsey, and Finch obviously loves filling in the period details. I've just read the first one in the series called **A Beautiful Blue Death** (\$22.95 Pb 309pp) in which Lenox, the amateur detective, solves a double murder which has taken place in the home of a prominent politician and aspiring social climber. The story meanders on happily, but comes to an exciting denouement. At the end of the book, there is a short taste of the next in the series, which is a nice touch. Other titles so far are **September Society** and **Fleet Street Murders** (both \$22.95 Pb).



Are you one of the many people who learn Italian for fun and pleasure? Then I think you will enjoy **La Bella Lingua: My Love Affair with Italy and the Most Enchanting Language in the World** (\$29.99 Pb 301pp incl a large bibliography). Dianne Hales takes you on a speedy tour through Italian history and literature, dropping pertinent expressions in Italian along the way, all safely translated into English. My goodness you will begin to feel you really do know some Italian after all. Most enjoyable.



And talking about being in love with Italy, what about our sometime local author Peter Robb, who has followed up his very successful **Midnight in Sicily** (\$22.95 Pb 384pp) and **M: A Biography of Caravaggio** (\$35 Pb 527pp) with **Street Fight in Naples: A Book of Art and Insurrection** (\$49.99 Hb 396pp incl index and notes). We've put this in Italian History as it is a vivid account of the many tempestuous inhabitants of Naples, especially painters and rebels, over the last 3,000 years.



I am sure lots of you will be heading to the NSW Art Gallery to look at the exhibition of Entombed Warriors from Xian in China. I tried to find a good book to go with this, but only came up with Ronan's abridged version of the famous Needham multi-volume **Science and Civilisation in China** (which we do carry in stock). It is called **The Shorter Science and Civilisation in China**. There are five volumes, ranging in price from \$69.95 to \$99 in paperback. These are probably more than what you want, so I hope the Art Gallery have an accompanying book on offer.



If you look on our marvellous website, you will find more details of all the above books. Some titles include a Google Preview, which shows the front cover and publishing details, list of contents, list of illustrations, list of tables, preface and a number of pages of text. If you read all this, you may not even need to come in to our shop, but I hope you do anyway – there is nothing quite like browsing in a real bookshop.

Happy New Year to you all,
Keep Well

Eve



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- One Day** by David Nicholls (Pb \$22.99)

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Contributors: Eve Abbey, Lindy Jones & Ann Leahy

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Jeff in Venice, Death in Varanasi by Geoff Dyer \$23.95

Jeff Atman, a journalist, is in Venice to cover the opening of the Biennale. He's expecting to see a load of art, go to a lot of parties and drink too many Bellinis. He's not expecting to meet the spell-binding Laura, who will completely transform his few days in the city.

The Reluctant Hero by Michael Dobbs \$22.99
Harry Jones, hero of **The Edge of Madness** (Pb \$19.99), is caught in a web of international intrigue, with an old friend as bait and a female scorpion at his side.

NON-FICTION

In Search of England by Roy Hattersley \$27.99
Hattersley celebrates crumbling churches and serene Victorian architecture, magnificent hills and wind-whipped coast, our music, theatre and local customs, and, above all, the quirky good humour and resilience of England's denizens.

Earth: Then and Now by Fred Pearce \$21.99

Documents the dramatic way in which our planet has changed over the past hundred years. Pearce tells the story of a melting glacier, an ever-rising cityscape or a natural disaster.

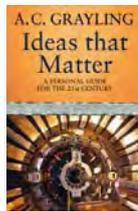


What Would Google Do? by Jeff Jarvis \$14.99
What's the question every business should be asking itself? According to Jeff Jarvis, it's "What would Google do?" If you're not thinking or acting like Google - the fastest-growing company in the history of the world - then you're not going to survive, let alone prosper, in the internet age.

Every Day in Tuscany: Seasons of an Italian Life by Frances Mayes \$24.95
Mayes offers another deeply personal account of her present-day life in Tuscany, encompassing both the changes she has experienced since her previous memoirs, and sensuous, evocative reflections on the timeless, unchanging beauty and simple pleasures of Italian life.

Ideas that Matter: A Personal Guide for the 21st Century by A C Grayling \$27.99

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How to Stop Living and Start Worrying by Simon Crichtley \$27.95

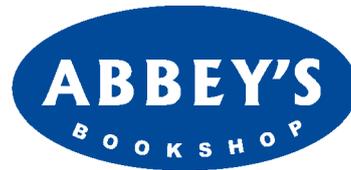
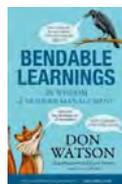
For Crichtley, philosophy begins with the question of finitude and with his understanding of a key classical theme - that to philosophise is to learn how to die. Learning how to accept both our own and others' mortality as a part of life also raises the question of how to love.

The Evolution of God: The Origins of Our Beliefs by Robert Wright \$29.99

Wright takes us on a sweeping journey through religious history, from the Stone Age to the Information Age, unveiling an astonishing discovery: that there is a hidden pattern in the way that Judaism, Christianity and Islam have all evolved.

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