

# ABBHEY'S ADVOCATE

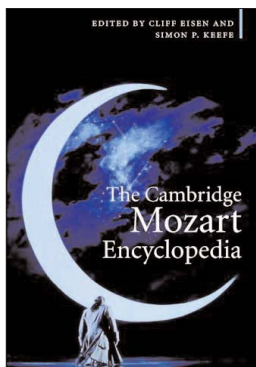
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## The Cambridge Mozart Encyclopedia

Cliff EISEN & Simon KEEFE (eds) 638pp Hb  
Normally \$299 Special price **\$250** (until 1 March)

This year the world will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Mozart. His enduring popularity lies at the heart of this book. It functions both as a starting point for information on specific works, people, places and concepts, as well as a summation of current thinking about Mozart. The extended articles on genres reflect the latest in scholarship and new ways of thinking about the works, while the articles on people and places provide a historical framework, as well as interpretation. The book also includes a series of thematic articles that cast a wide net over the 18th century and Mozart's relationship to it, including Austria, Germany, aesthetics, travel, Enlightenment, Mozart as a reader, and contemporaneous medicine, among others.



## The Boyer Lectures 2005

### The Future of Jesus

Dr Peter JENSEN 144pp Pb \$22.95

What is the future of Jesus in the secular West? Is he passing into history? What future did Jesus himself envisage? He predicted the coming of God's kingdom, but what was it and did it come? Archbishop of Sydney Dr Jensen re-evaluates Jesus Christ and provocatively examines key issues surrounding him.

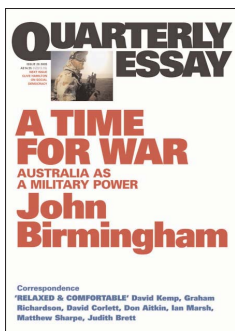
## A Time for War

### Australia as a Military Power Quarterly Essay #20

John BIRMINGHAM

144pp Pb \$14.95

Birmingham begins with an exhilarating account of Operation Anaconda, which tells of the crucial contribution of Australian Special Forces in Afghanistan. As Australian troops return to that country, this is particularly timely. According to Birmingham, the Vietnam War Syndrome is dead. Confidence has returned in the use of military action as a political tool. Australian defence policy has become more assertive and our armed forces are being radically restructured and hardened in line with this. Then there are the cultural changes, like the sanctification of Anzac Day and the government's use of military imagery for election purposes. Is this simply a response to the September 11 atrocities? Or is there something deeper and more significant going on?

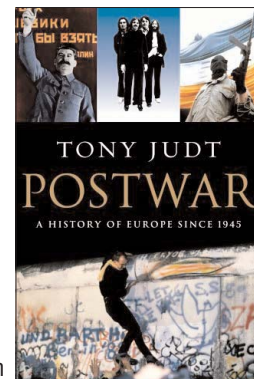


## Postwar

### A History of Europe Since 1945

Tony JUDT 878pp Hb \$79.95

Tracing the story of post-war Europe and its changing role in the world, Judt's magnificent history of the continent of our times investigates the political, social and cultural history of Europe from the wreckage of post-war Europe to the expansion of the EU into the former Soviet empire. His stress is on the continent as a whole, from Greece to Norway, from Portugal to Russia. This, uniquely, is a history that pays due attention to both Western and Eastern Europe, to cultural and social developments and to political and diplomatic events. Judt shows how politics, society, culture and popular culture have influenced each other. A masterly and definitive history of a continent in a crucial period of its history. Europe in our time.

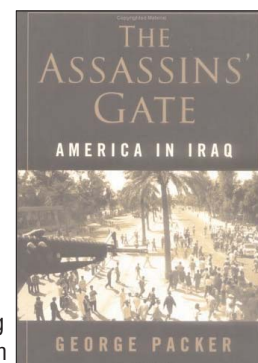


## The Assassins' Gate

### America in Iraq

George PACKER 480pp Hb \$56.00

Packer recounts how the US set about changing the history of the Middle East and became ensnared in a guerrilla war in Iraq. It brings to life the people and ideas that created the Bush administration's war policy and led America to the Assassins' Gate - the main point of entry into the American zone in Baghdad. The consequences of that policy are shown in Packer's brilliant reporting on the ground in Iraq, where he made four tours on assignment for *The New Yorker*. We see up close the struggles of American soldiers and civilians and Iraqis from all backgrounds, thrown together by a war that followed none of the preconceived scripts. Packer also describes the place of the war in American life: the ideological battles in Washington that led to chaos in Iraq, the ordeal of a fallen soldier's family and the political culture of a country too bitterly polarised to realise such a vast and morally complex undertaking. His first-person narrative combines the scope of an epic history with the depth and intimacy of a novel, creating a masterful account of America's most controversial foreign venture since Vietnam.



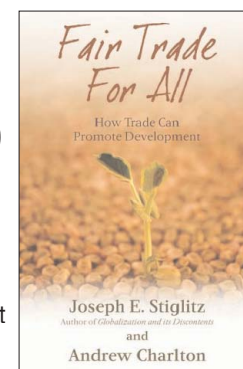
## Fair Trade for All

### How Trade Can Promote Development

Joseph STIGLITZ & Andrew CHARLTON

356pp Hb \$50.00

How can the poorer countries of the world be helped to help themselves through freer, fairer trade? In this challenging and controversial book, Nobel Prize-winning economist Stiglitz and Charlton put forward a radical and realistic new model for managing trading relationships between the richest and poorest countries. Their approach is designed to open up markets in the interests of all, not just the most powerful economies, to ensure that trade promotes development and to minimise the costs of adjustments. Beginning with a brief history of the World Trade Organisation and its agreements, the authors explore the issues and events which led to the failure of Cancun and the obstacles that face the successful completion of the Doha Round of negotiations. Finally they spell out the reforms and principles upon which a successful agreement must be based.



## January Trading Hours

Regular trading hours except for:

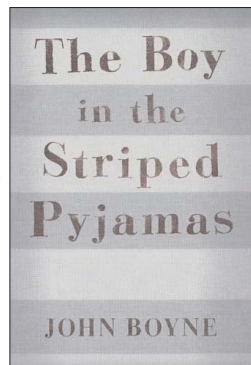
1	Sun	New Year's Day	closed
2	Mon	Public Hol	10am - 5pm
26	Thu	Australia Day	10am - 5pm

## The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

John BOYNE 224pp Hb \$29.95

I got sent an advance copy of this book, with a covering letter saying we can't tell you about this book, you just have to read it. I groaned, but had a look anyway - and the publishers were right - you can't say much to someone who hasn't read it! And when reps from other companies who have managed to get a hold of it want to discuss it in great detail with you, you know you are in the presence of something very powerful... Bruno is nine years old and his strict, but loving, father has been promoted away from the city Bruno has grown up in. He has to leave behind his house, his three best friends for life, his grandparents - his whole way of life. The new house is in the middle of a well-tended garden, but far away from anything - except a fence that disappears into the distance. Lonely and bored, Bruno goes exploring, but what he discovers is eventually going to change everything. Sorry I can't say more, but I do urge you to read this profoundly moving book.

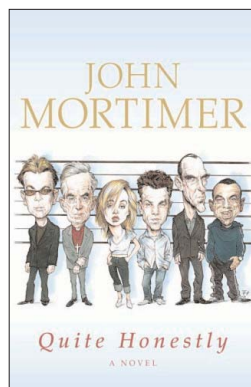
Lindy



## Quite Honestly

John MORTIMER 224pp Hb \$39.95

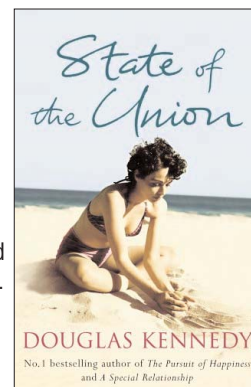
Life couldn't be better for Lucinda Purefoy. Granted it's a little embarrassing, her father being the Bishop of Aldershot, but she's got a steady boyfriend, a degree in social sciences from Manchester University and an offer of a job in advertising. With all that, she felt she should pay back her debt to society and do a little good in the world. That's why she joined SCRAP (Social Carers, Reformers and Praeceptors), an organisation which trains girls like Lucy to become the guide, philosopher and friend to ex-convicts coming out of prison, to find them a job, a home and to encourage them to kick the habit of stealing things. And so Lucy finds herself standing outside the gates of Wormwood Scrubs, on a windy March morning, waiting to greet her first SCRAP client, a career burglar called Terry Keegan. What happens next confounds expectations and produces a story full of surprises. With a compulsive plot and cast of characters that rivals anything in his famous Rumpole stories, this is a wonderfully comic novel, packed with Mortimer's entertaining reflections on crime.



## State of the Union

Douglas KENNEDY 448pp Tp \$32.95

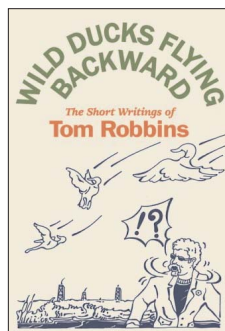
The 60s was an era of radical upheaval - of civil rights protests and anti-war marches, of sexual liberation and hallucinogenic drugs. More tellingly, it was a time when you weren't supposed to trust anyone over the age of 30; when, if you were young, you rebelled against your parents and their conservative values. But not Hannah Buchan. Hannah is a great disappointment to her famous radical father and painter mother. Because instead of mounting the barricades and embracing this age of profound social change, she wants nothing more than to marry her doctor boyfriend and raise a family in a small town. Hannah gets her wish. But once installed as the doctor's wife in a nowhere corner of Maine, boredom sets in... until an unforeseen moment of personal rebellion changes everything.



## Wild Ducks Flying Backward

Tom ROBBINS 256pp Pb \$24.95

A collection of non-fiction essays and short fiction, many in print for the first time. From tributes - such as an ode to redheads, kissing, Diane Keaton, Leonard Cohen, tomato sandwiches and The Doors - to musings, travel essays, art critiques, short stories, poems and country song lyrics, this is a real treat for Robbins' multitude of fans.

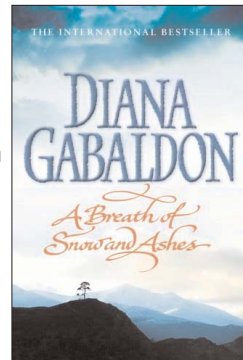


## A Breath of Snow and Ashes

Diana GABALDON 1,200pp Tp \$35.00

1772: the eve of the American revolution. In Boston, men lie dead in the street, and in the backwoods of America, isolated cabins burn in the darkness of the forest. The Colony is in ferment. Jamie Fraser, a passionate leader of men, receives an envoy from Governor Josiah Martin, asking for help. The Governor needs someone to unite the backcountry, pacify the seething resentments of the settlers and keep the mountains safe for King and Crown.

Jamie, everyone agrees, is the man for the job. But he knows what is to come. His wife, Claire, has travelled back in time from the 20th century and she knows that it's only a matter of a few years before the start of the War of Independence, ending with the exile or death of the men loyal to the King of England.



## The Firemaster's Mistress

Christie DICKASON

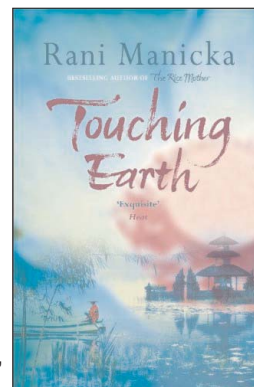
480pp Tp \$29.95

Through the eyes of the courtesan Kate Peach and the Fire Master Francis Quoynt, the dramatic plot of Guy Fawkes and his fellow Papist hotheads unfolds in the gaudy, conspiracy-ridden streets of Shakespeare's Southwark, the court of King James I at Whitehall and the lanes of the fishing village of Brighton. The official story of the Gunpowder Plot, put together for his own advantage by the First Minister Robert Cecil, has for centuries concealed with whitewash the scale of the threat posed to the new Stuart dynasty. Cecil is not the villain - that title goes to Francis Bacon. There is savage enmity between these two intellectual giants, tempestuous love between Kate Peach and Quoynt, and a terrorist incident in the 17th century on the scale of September 11. Even though it was foiled, we still remember it.

## Touching Earth

Rani MANICKA 480pp Pb \$21.00

An exquisitely written novel of innocence corrupted from the award-winning author of **The Rice Mother** (Pb \$20.95). Balinese twins, beautiful and exotic, exchange an island paradise for the shabby squalor of London, and innocence for corruption. The Sicilian, Ricky Delgado, strikes a devil's bargain with a blood goddess: "Build my temple and bring me the souls of damaged people, and you will see what rewards I give." The Courtesan, Elizabeth, makes her living from men's desire. With a flick of the switch in her head, she feels nothing: no pain, hate, sorrow or joy. The artist, Anis, takes to painting as an outlet for his rage. His artist's eye knows his subjects before they know themselves, and he paints them all, a gallery of broken people.

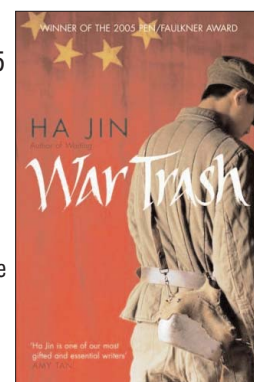


## War Trash

Ha JIN

368pp Tp \$32.95

This unforgettable novel tells the story, in memoir form, of Yu Yuan, a young Chinese army officer, one of a corps of 'volunteers' sent by Mao to help shore up the communist side in Korea. When Yu is captured by the Americans, his command of English thrusts him into the role of unofficial interpreter in the psychological warfare that defines the POW camp. Desperate to return to his beloved fiancée and his widowed mother, he is trapped not only by barbed wire, but also by politics. Taking us behind the barbed wire, Ha Jin brilliantly renders the complex world the prisoners inhabit. As Yu and his fellow captives struggle to create some sense of community, while remaining watchful of the deceptions inherent in every exchange, only the idea of home can hold out the promise of a return to their former selves. Winner of the 2005 *Pen/Faulkner Award*.





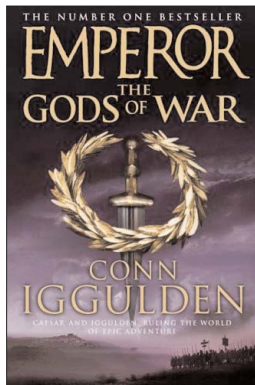
## Emperor

### The Gods of War

Conn IGGULDEN

448pp Tp \$29.95

In this, the fourth volume in the acclaimed *Emperor* series, Iggulden brilliantly interweaves history and adventure to recreate the astonishing life of Julius Caesar. It looked as if it would be war. The strife between that great figure, Pompey, the Dictator of Rome, and the young general fresh from his triumphant conquests of Gaul and Britain, had come to a head. So Julius Caesar, with all his generals and his four veteran legions, had crossed the Rubicon and was marching towards Rome. But in the wide-reaching Roman Empire, there are many more legions, and many loyal to Pompey, and to fight against and kill your own people will never be easy. So even when Julius Caesar, accompanied by Brutus, Mark Antony and Octavian, rode into Rome, the first time they had been back in their home town for over 10 years, the path to success would not be easy. But Caesar's uncanny ability to pick the right notes in his speeches from the Senate steps and his brilliance at communication made him sure of his role, his rightfulness for command and sure that power was his alone.



## She May Not Leave

Fay WELDON

288pp Tp \$27.95

In her witty, clipped and entertaining style, Weldon presents an old dilemma with a new twist. Hattie has a difficult loving partner, Martyn, an absentee mother, Lallie, and a cynical attentive grandmother, Frances. She tries to do the right and moral thing in a tricky world, and always has. But she now has a baby, Kitty, which makes true morality rather harder to achieve. Somehow, money has to be earned. Into this household comes Agnieszka, from Poland, a domestic paragon. But is she friend or foe? And even if she is foe, and seems likely to bring the domestic world crashing down around their ears, can they afford to let her go? Be careful who you invite into the bosom of your home - she may never leave...



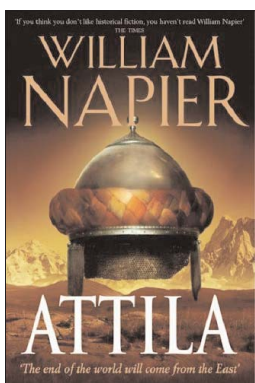
## Attila

### The Scourge of God

William NAPIER

400pp Tp \$29.95

406 AD, and the Roman Empire totters on the edge of the abyss. Already divided into two, the Imperium is looking dangerously vulnerable to her European rivals. The huge barbarian tribes of the Vandals and Visigoths sense that their time is upon them. But, unbeknownst to all these great players, a new power is rising in the East. A strange nation of primitive horse-warriors has been striking terror on border peoples for 50 years. Few realise what is about to happen, for these so called 'Huns' now have a new leader - Attila, 'the Scourge of God'. Thus begins a saga of warfare, lust and power which brought the whole of the Christian world to its knees and was only ended in blood on the fields of France.



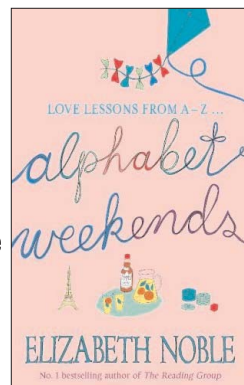
## Alphabet Weekends

### Love Lessons from A - Z

Elizabeth NOBLE

480pp Tp \$32.95

A is for Affection - between childhood best friends; between their parents; between brothers and sisters. B is for Brokenhearted - Natalie, when the boyfriend who was meant to propose dumps her just before Christmas; her mother, when she realises what her life has come to; Lucy, as she thinks of ending one relationship and maybe beginning another. C is for Chemistry - Could Natalie and Tom have it (and what does it actually mean, anyway)? A tender, funny novel about love in all its guises.



## The Slightly Bruised Glory of

### Cedar B Hartley

#### Who Can't Help Flying High and Falling in Deep

Martine MURRAY

233pp Pb \$15.95

Cedar, the irrepressible heroine of *The Slightly True Story of Cedar B Hartley* (Pb \$15.95), is back, a little bit older and by the end of this novel, maybe even a little bit wiser. It's hard being 13 and on the cusp of adolescence, but harder if the boy you like lives in another town and what you really want to do is run away and join the Flying Fruit Fly Circus. Then there's the newly discovered Aunt Squeezy, a bunch of refugees and a worst enemy to help as well. A lovely read that catches the turmoil and hopefulness of being a teenager!

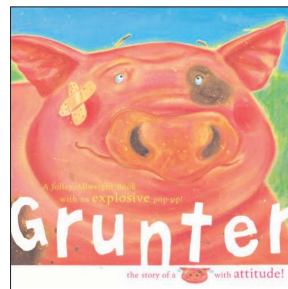
## Grunter

### The Story of a Pig with Attitude

Mike JOLLEY, Deborah ALLBRIGHT (illus)

32pp Pb \$16.95

This is a lot of fun! Granville the pig is better known as Grunter and he is truly a pig of a pig. A nicely alliterative text details his shortcomings and nasty behaviour, and the illustrations are bright and expressive. The other animals solve the problem of Grunter in quite an explosive way... Perfect for the pre-schooler.



## Darwin's Tortoise

Robin STEWART

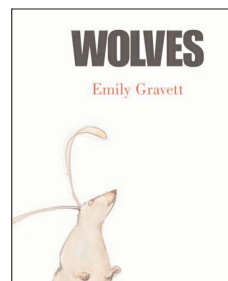
150pp Pb \$19.95

When Darwin visited the Galapagos Islands in 1835, he left with some 'souvenirs' - three tortoises. One of them is still alive and in a Queensland zoo! Harriet has come a long way since she hatched - shipped to London, then to Brisbane when Darwin decided it was too cold for Harry (she was close to 120 years old when she was finally sexed!) She lived for decades in the Botanical Gardens before being transferred to David Fleay's Fauna Reserve and eventually the Australia Zoo. An engaging true story. 10+

## Wolves

Emily GRAVETT 32pp Hb \$26.95

Rabbit goes to the library and borrows a book on wolves. Totally engrossed in reading, he doesn't see what is out there in the real world. Wonderful illustrations, bunny-puns throughout and an alternative ending for sensitive readers. A clever story and beautifully produced, the sort of book adult collectors enjoy and youngsters ask questions about...



## Haunted Australia

John HEFFERNAN

167pp Pb \$14.95

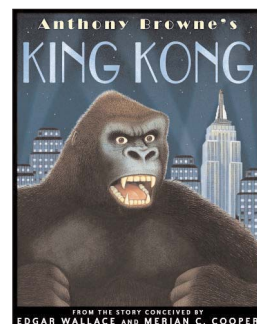
A spooky tour of mysterious Australia, with tales from the bush and the city. Tales of presences, haunted houses, animal ghosts and scary happenings are interspersed with 'ghostcodes.' Just the thing to keep a youngster 8+ occupied over the holidays!

## King Kong

Anthony BROWNE

92pp Lp \$24.95

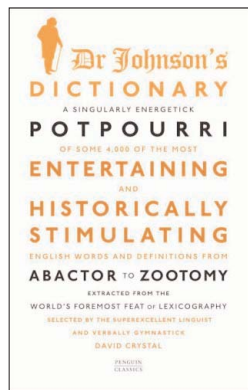
First published in 1994 and long unavailable, this retelling of the classic story by Edgar Wallace and Merian Cooper is faithful to the original. Browne combines his love of depicting primates with a 1930s feel and references to popular culture. An appealing version. Ages 12+



## Dr Johnson's Dictionary

Samuel JOHNSON, David CRYSTAL (ed)  
650pp Hb \$39.95

This singularly 'energetic' potpourri of some 4,000 of the most entertaining and historically stimulating English words and definitions (from Abactor to Zootomy) has been extracted from the world's foremost feat of lexicography by the superexcellent linguist and verbally 'gymnastick', most eminent Mr Crystal! It includes a potted biography of Dr Johnson, plus his Plan and Preface for the original Dictionary, as well as 10 pages of notes. Extraordinary!



Cara

## One Letter Words

### A Dictionary

Craig CONLEY

272pp Hb \$27.95

Merriam-Webster, move over! Until now, no English dictionary has ever found the fun or the fascination in revealing the meanings of letters. Conley illuminates more than 800 surprising definitions associated with each letter in the English alphabet. For instance, he uncovers 69 different definitions for the letter X, the most versatile letter in the English language. Using facts, figures, quotations and etymologies, the author provides a complete and enjoyable understanding of the one-letter word. With the letter B, Conley teaches us that its many different meanings span multiple subjects including science (B denotes a blood type and is a symbol for the element Boron on the Periodic table) and history (in the Middle Ages, B was branded on a blasphemer's forehead). With the letter A, he reminds us that A is not only a bra size, but also a musical note. This book is the essential desk companion, gift or reference volume for a vast array of readers, puzzle lovers, teachers, students, librarians or armchair linguists.

## Funktionary

### A Cheeky Collection of Contemporary Words

Ruth WAJNRYB

224pp Pb \$24.95

For the gazillions of readers who just adore new words and phrases, here is a collection of all the latest buzzwords. This is the end product of grit, wit and lexicpionage - a wacky collection of words that demonstrate the flexibility and liveliness of the English language. As a 'pre-dictionary', this is different from regular dictionaries in that it finds, collects and predicts entries for the dictionaries of tomorrow. In these pages, readers encounter some 2,500 pre-dictionary words. Some will live on in print, some will make it into the language under their own steam and others will simply fade away. Such arrivals and departures are inherent in the ebb and flow of language.

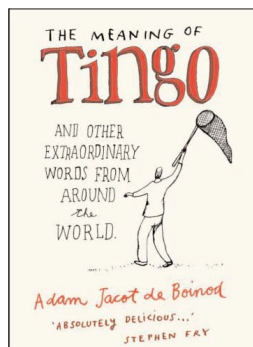
## The Meaning of Tingo

### And Other Extraordinary Words from Around the World

Adam JACOT de BOINOD

192pp Hb \$29.95

Did you know that people in Bolivia have a word that means "I was rather too drunk last night and it's all their fault"? Or that the Albanians have 27 words for moustache? Or that the Dutch word for skimming stones is "plimpplamppletteren"? Drawing on the collective wisdom of over 280 languages, this intriguing book is arranged by theme so you can compare attitudes all over the world to such subjects as food, the human body and the battle of the sexes. You can find not only those words for which there is no direct counterpart in English (such as "pana po'o" in Hawaiian - to scratch your head in order to remember something important), but also those that sound confusingly the same ("gin" in Turkish means to dry out). Oh, and "tingo" is a Pascuense word from the Easter Islands meaning "to borrow things from a friend's house one by one until there's nothing left."

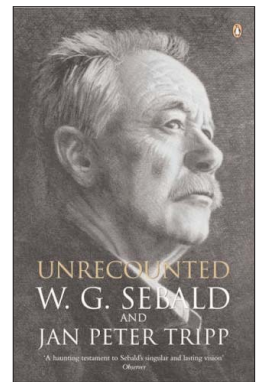


## Unrecounted

W G SEBALD & Jan Peter TRIPP

112pp Pb \$24.95

For a number of years until his death in 2001, W G Sebald and the German artist, Jan Peter Tripp, exchanged poems and lithographs. This is the result of this long artistic friendship - a creative dialogue inspired by shared concerns. Sebald's words and Tripp's images speak of moments salvaged from time passing, of our eyes bearing witness and of memory and remembrance.



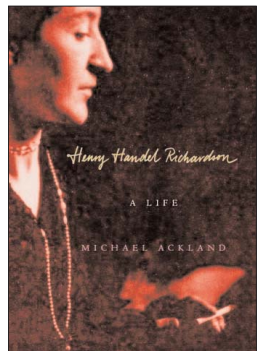
## Henry Handel Richardson

### A Life

Michael ACKLAND

326pp Pb \$34.95

Henry Handel Richardson has been celebrated for her classic Australian novels *The Getting of Wisdom* (Pb \$16.95) and *The Fortunes of Richard Mahony* (Pb \$29.95), yet her own life-story is still to be fully told. This enthralling book provides the first complete biography of the enigmatic Australian literary icon and sheds new light on the conjecture surrounding her life. Beginning with her traumatic childhood, then tracing in detail the largely unknown story of the 11 formative years Richardson spent on the Continent, the book then goes on to explore the personal and social forces that moved her during her long years as a London intellectual.



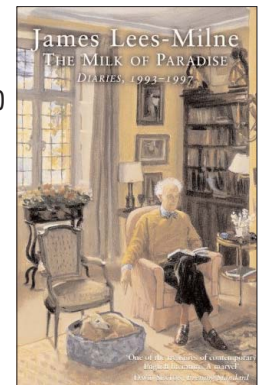
## Diaries 1993 - 1997

### The Milk of Paradise

James LEES-MILNE

Hb \$80.00

James Lees-Milne was surely one of the greatest diarists of the century. As a key member of the fledgling National Trust, he spent years inspecting historic buildings offered by eccentric or impecunious owners to the Trust and he recorded his observations in several volumes which bristle with wit, malice, gossip and (often scandalous) anecdote. He loved fine objects and weird people in equal measure and he wrote about both with unflinching grace and acuity. Since his death in 1997, the process of editing and publishing his diaries has been continued by his literary executor, Michael Bloch. The previous volumes are *Deep Romantic Chasm: 1979-81* (out of print), *Holy Dread: 1982-84* (Tp \$49.95), *Beneath a Waning Moon: 1985-87* (Tp \$42.95) and *Ceaseless Turmoil 1988-92* (Tp \$44.95).



## La Dolce Vita

### Sweet Dreams and Chocolate Memories

Isabel COE

256pp Hb \$29.95

Starting with tales of her grandmother's exploits in Switzerland and Florence, Coe's memoir-cum-cookbook progresses through Europe and the Second World War to her recent relocation to Australia. Each of the mouth-watering recipes featured throughout the text is unique, either because of its unusual blend of ingredients, its historical, personal or geographical interest, or its outstanding quality. Included are photographs of the people and hand-drawn sketches of the places that provided inspiration for the original recipes.



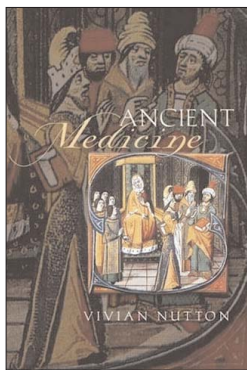
Books - Where Ideas Grow



## Ancient Medicine

Vivian NUTTON 485pp Pb \$62.00

This is the first large-scale history of medicine in antiquity to appear in a single volume for almost 100 years. It combines archaeological evidence with written texts, and introduces many new medical texts that have survived only in medieval translations into Arabic. As well as telling the story of the development of medical ideas, from the early Greeks to the massive handbooks of late antiquity, it looks at the place of medicine in ancient society. Nutton explores the life and work of doctors, looking at the diseases they faced, the ways they obtained their knowledge and whether they were respected by the community. He also investigates the relationship between medicine and the various religious beliefs of antiquity, asking if there were fixed boundaries between medicine and magic; finally he examines the differences in approaches to medicine between a great city such as Rome and territories such as Egypt or Roman Britain.

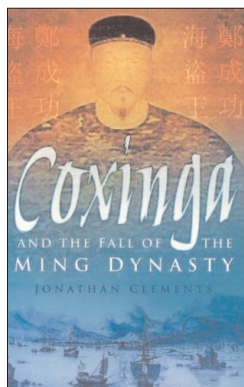


## Coxinga

### And the Fall of the Ming Dynasty

Jonathan CLEMENTS 256pp Pb \$24.95

This is the fantastic true story of the infamous pirate Coxinga - who became king of Taiwan and was made a god - twice. From humble origins, Coxinga's father became the richest man in China and Admiral of the Emperor's navy during the Ming Dynasty. As his eldest son, Coxinga was given the best education and developed a love of poetry and the study of Confucius. From this unlikely beginning, it took the invasion of south China by the Manchu and the subsequent loss of both his parents - his father defected to the Manchu and his mother, a Japanese Samurai, died in battle - to turn Coxinga from scholar to warrior. Fiercely loyal to his exiled Emperor, Coxinga fought against overwhelming odds until his defeat drove him out to sea and over to Taiwan - at the time a lawless set of islands inhabited by cannibals. Self-styled king of Taiwan, Coxinga died at the moment of his triumph. His descendants ruled the island for two decades.

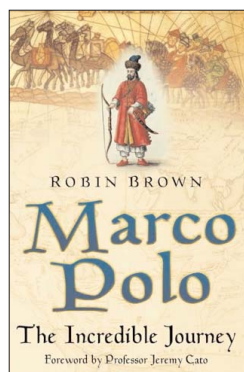


## Marco Polo

### The Incredible Journey

Robin BROWN 240pp Hb \$49.95

The incredible story of Marco Polo's journey to the ends of the earth has for the last 700 years been beset by doubts as to its authenticity. Did this intrepid Venetian really trek across Asia Minor as a teenager, explore the length and breadth of China as the ambassador of the ruthless dictator, Kubilai Khan, and make his escape from almost certain death at the hands of Khan's successors? Brown aims to get to the truth of Marco Polo's claims. All of us who now enjoy the fruits of Marco Polo's incredible journey through Asia - such as spectacles, fireworks, pasta or any of the many products of the Silk Road - will find in this book a fascinating portrait of a man who brought about the meeting of East and West.

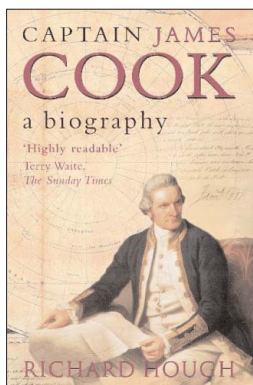


## Captain James Cook

### A Biography

Richard HOUGH 416pp Hb \$35.00

This biography of the navigator and explorer covers his life leading to the three voyages which made the Pacific Ocean geographically coherent. Cook charted the North and South Islands of New Zealand and was the first to chart the entire coast of Australia. First published in 1994, this illustrated edition is unsurpassed.

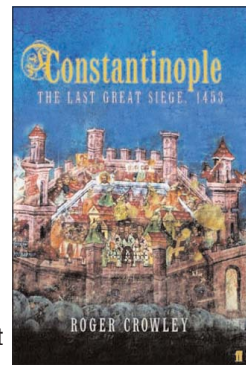


## Constantinople

### The Last Great Siege, 1453

Roger CROWLEY 304pp Hb \$49.95

In the spring of 1453, the Ottoman Turks advanced on Constantinople in pursuit of an ancient Islamic dream: capturing the thousand-year-old capital of Christian Byzantium. During the siege that followed, a small band of badly organised defenders, outnumbered 10 to one, confronted the might of the Ottoman army in a bitter contest fought on land, sea and underground, and directed by two remarkable men - Sultan Mehmet II and the Emperor Constantine XI. In the fevered religious atmosphere, heightened by the first massed use of artillery bombardment, both sides feared that the end of the world was nigh. The outcome of the siege, decided in a few short hours on 29 May 1453, is one of the great set-piece moments of world history.



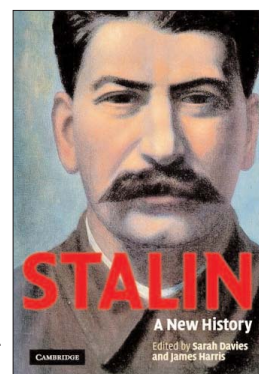
## Stalin

### A New History

Sarah DAVIES & James HARRIS (eds)

295pp Pb \$59.95

In this groundbreaking study, leading international experts challenge many assumptions about Stalin - from his early life in Georgia to the Cold War years - with contributions ranging across the political, economic, social, cultural, ideological and international history of the Stalin era. It provides a deeper understanding of the nature of Stalin's power and the role of ideas in his politics, presenting a more complex and nuanced image of one of the most important leaders of the 20th century. This study is without precedent in the field of Russian history and will prove invaluable reading for students of Stalin and Stalinism.

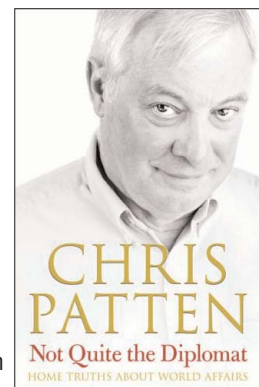


## Not Quite the Diplomat

### Home Truths About World Affairs

Chris PATTEN 304pp Hb \$49.95

Described by *The Guardian* as "nobody's poodle", Patten explains what has been happening in Britain, Europe and the world since 1997 from the perspective of one at the heart of international events. He writes frankly about many of the major players and what happened behind closed doors. His sketches of world leaders - including Chirac, Putin, Kohl and Blair - are done with the brush of a master portraitist. In arguing about where we should be, he writes with the directness of a man freed at last from the bonds of diplomatic restraint. No recent book by a politician of any political persuasion has been so engaging, so outspoken and often so funny. If Patten is no longer the diplomat, it is the readers of this book who are the beneficiaries.



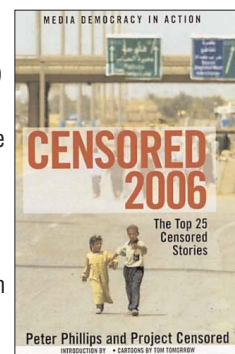
## Censored 2006

### The Top 25 Censored Stories

Peter PHILLIPS & PROJECT CENSORED

160pp Pb \$32.00

The bestselling *Censored* series highlights the year's 25 most important under-reported news stories, alerting readers to deficiencies in corporate media and the resurgence of alternative media. In addition to the top censored stories of the year, this year's edition includes an investigative report on untold and unfinished 9/11-related stories.



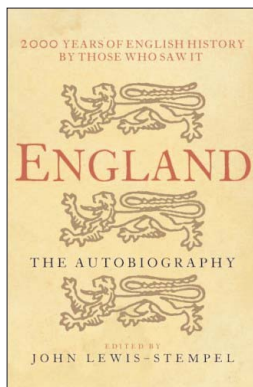
## England

### The Autobiography

John LEWIS-STEMPEL

England's history is among the most fascinating and influential of any country. This unique volume presents that history in unique form: firsthand, through the words of those who saw it and made it. All the great events of the last 2,000 years are here: the Norman Conquest, Magna Carta, the Peasants' Revolt, Henry VIII's break with Rome, the Great Fire of London, Nelson at Trafalgar and two World Wars. Alongside these are the less obvious happenings which together capture the nation's social history, such as the Black Death of 1349 or life as a chimney sweep in 1817. Of course, there are also the things that have shaped the nature of Englishness, like theatregoing in Elizabethan London, fox hunting in 1898, Oates's self-sacrifice at the South Pole, the Beatles and the 1966 World Cup. Presented chronologically, this is a joy to read, whether cover-to-cover or dipped into as a treasury of sources.

480pp Hb \$49.95



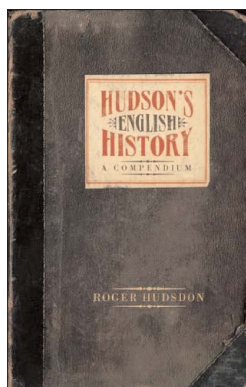
## Hudson's English History

### A Compendium

Roger HUDSON

160pp Hb \$29.95

Flitting happily from period to period at will, you can alight on a note on the royal hounds and huntsmen in 1136, be equipped to discuss siege warfare (using the correct vocabulary), choose a destination for a pilgrimage or a religious order to join. The working methods of the Exchequer are usefully explained and you are duly warned as to what behaviour would have landed you in the pillory in London in 1419. The intricacies of the Tudor Court are plotted, the Anglo-Scottish border clans mapped and the Armada fleets anatomised. 17th century banquet menus, including boiled teats and seagulls, are pored over and Charles II's bastards catalogued. Euphemisms for gin, and the evocative names of strong beers and Nelson's gunboats, are listed. Learn how to live as a clerk in London in 1767 and for what offences you could be fined as a cotton spinner in one of the new factories around 1800. There are 19th century 'rich lists', a breakdown of life below stairs in a stately home around 1900, and much, much more.



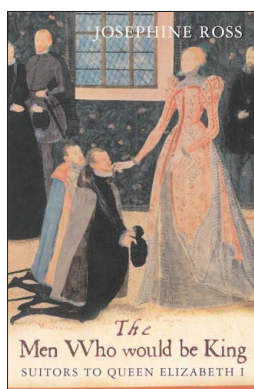
## The Men Who Would Be King

### Suitors to Queen Elizabeth I

Josephine ROSS

256pp Pb \$26.95

From her childhood, shadowed by the marital upheavals of her father Henry VIII and the tragic first encounter with courtship, to the fantastical flirtations of her old age, Elizabeth refused to commit herself to any man. During the marriage negotiations, which spanned half a century, romance blended with diplomacy as one illustrious suitor after another endeavoured to ally himself to her in the most intimate of treaties. Sought after by some of the most powerful men in Europe, she knew her marriageable status was one of her greatest assets. She played one suitor against another, exploiting her situation to the full, both for England's profit and her pleasure. By turns she encouraged and eluded her pursuers, keeping alive hopes which she would never fulfil. Yet one man did come close to winning her. Ambitious, devious Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, suspected by many of having murdered his wife, was the most persistent of the suitors to the Queen, and though he never attained the prize he longed for, he was dearly loved by Elizabeth all her life.



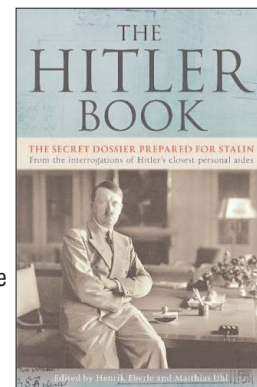
## The Hitler Book

### The Secret Dossier Prepared for Stalin

Henrik EBERLE & Matthias UHL (eds)

400pp Tp \$39.95

On breaking open the Berlin Bunker on 2 May 1945, Soviet troops captured two of Hitler's closest associates: his personal valet, Heinz Linge, and his SS adjutant, Otto Guensche, who had just disposed of the bodies of Hitler and Eva Braun. On Stalin's orders, they were questioned for two years, to produce this astonishing fly-on-the wall account of all they saw in Hitler's headquarters - where they had worked since 1933. It has been held in top-level Russian archives since 1949. Chilling, revealing and compellingly readable, it is one of the most authentic sources of information in existence on the history of the Third Reich, unique in the circumstances of its compilation and its closeness in time to the events described.



## What We Knew

### Terror, Mass Murder and Everyday Life in Nazi Germany

Eric JOHNSON & Karl Heinz REUBAND

432pp Tp \$29.95

In this remarkable personal history of the Third Reich, 3,000 Germans and 500 German Jews tell of their everyday experiences of life under the Nazis. They describe their brushes with the Gestapo and what they knew at the time about the mass murder of Jews. What they say is horrifying, moving and - even at this distance from the war - often surprising. Jews, many of them now in America, speak of their journeys by train to Auschwitz and elsewhere, the harassment they suffered in Nazi Germany and sometimes of the support and friendship of ordinary German neighbours. Many ordinary Germans speak with remarkable openness. One, for instance, was a reserve policeman who served as a concentration camp guard in Dachau and later took part in shooting 300 Jewish women and children. About half admit to knowing about the murder of Jews before the end of the war, and even now, many confess that they admired Hitler and believed in the Nazi movement.



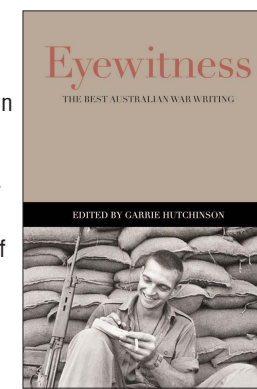
## Eyewitness

### The Best Australian War Writing

Garrie HUTCHINSON (ed)

432pp Tp \$34.95

Hutchinson has collected and edited a great range of front-line stories from the great variety of conflicts in which Australia has been involved. A salutary lesson is how often we seem to have been back to the same places in Asia, Europe and the Middle East! The chronological collection of the best war writing is connected by brief scene-setting narrative and pertinent biographical detail of the writers involved. Authors featured include Banjo Patterson, Peter Wilson, Paul McGeough, Charles Bean, Osmar White, Alan Moorehead and Wilfred Burchett.



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**Framing the Early Middle Ages: Europe and the Mediterranean, 400-800** (1,017pp Hb \$290.00) by Chris Wickham is the most ambitious and original survey of the early medieval European period ever written. The author aims to integrate documentary and archaeological evidence and also create a comparative history of the period by means of systematic comparative analyses of each of the regions of the latest Roman and immediately post-Roman world, from Denmark to Egypt.

Engaging with four English poems or groups of poems - the anonymous medieval Crucifixion lyrics, William Langland's *Piers Plowman*, John Donne's *Divine Poems* and John Milton's *Paradise Lost* - **Encounters with God in Medieval and Early Modern English Poetry** (Hb \$150.00) by Charlotte Clutterbuck examines the nature of poetic encounter with God, as well as contributing to the discussion of critical dilemmas in the study of the poems.

In **Ancient Israel in Sinai** (336pp Hb \$95.00), James Hoffmeier uses recent archaeological findings to shed new light on the route of the exodus from Egypt. He also investigates the location of Mount Sinai and offers a rebuttal to those who have sought to locate it in northern Arabia and not on the Sinai Peninsula as traditionally thought.

James Gelvin's **The Israel-Palestine Conflict: One Hundred Years of War** (294pp Pb \$39.95) offers a compelling, accessible and up-to-the-moment introduction for students and general readers. It places events in Palestine within the framework of global history and interweaves biographical sketches, eyewitness accounts, fiction and official documentation into its narrative.

**How the Bible Became a Book** (257pp Pb \$34.95) by William Schniedewind combines recent archaeological discoveries in the Middle East with insights culled from the history of writing to address how the Bible first came to be written down and then became sacred scripture. It provides rich insight into why these texts came to have authority as Scripture and explores why ancient Israel, an oral culture, began to write literature.

**The Far Enemy: Why Jihad Went Global** (345pp Hb \$49.95) by Fawaz Gerges shows that, contrary to popular belief, Al Qaeda represents a minority within the jihadist movement and its strategies have been vehemently opposed by religious nationalists among the jihadis, who prefer to concentrate on changing the Muslim world, rather than taking the fight global.

In **Healing in the History of Christianity** (226pp Hb \$52.95), Amanda Porterfield offers a survey of ideas, rituals and experiences of healing in Christian history. Jesus himself performed many miracles of healing and Christians down the ages have seen this as a prominent feature of their faith. Indeed, healing is one of the most constant themes in the long and sprawling history of Christianity.

**Language Origins: Perspectives on Evolution** (446pp Pb \$77.50), edited by Maggie Tallerman, addresses central questions in the evolution of language: where it came from; how it relates to primate communication; how and why it evolved; how it came to be culturally transmitted; and how languages diversified.

How do communities survive catastrophe? Using classical Athens as a case study, Josiah Ober argues in **Athenian Legacies** (273pp Hb \$49.95) that if a democratic community is to survive over time, its people must choose to go on together. The book shows how the people of one influential political community rebuilt their democratic government, reweave their social fabric and, through thick and thin, went on together.

**Riddles of Existence: A Guided Tour of Metaphysics** (210pp Hb \$34.95) by Earl Conee and Theodore Sider makes metaphysics genuinely accessible, even fun. Its lively, informal style brings the riddles to life and shows how stimulating they can be to think about. No philosophical background is required to enjoy this book: anyone wanting to think about life's most profound questions will find it provocative and entertaining.

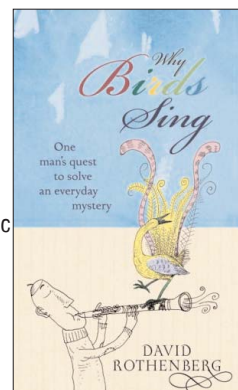
Dave

## Why Birds Sing

### One Man's Quest to Solve an Everyday Mystery

David ROTHENBERG 272pp Hb \$39.95

This exploration of a phenomenon that is at once familiar and baffling illustrates the richness and diversity of bird song as both an aesthetic and scientific mystery. Aesthetically, bird song is strange, alien and weirdly beautiful in ways that humans can hardly understand, let alone replicate. Is it possible that birds sing because they like to? Rothenberg approaches the subject as a naturalist, philosopher and musician, investigating the mysteries of bird song with scientists working at the cutting edge of animal music and cognition and with acoustic explorers recording the sounds themselves in many of the world's vanishing wild places. This fascinating book offers deep insight into the origin of music and its practice and enjoyment by humans, blending the latest scientific research with a deep understanding of musical beauty and form in both avian and human forms.

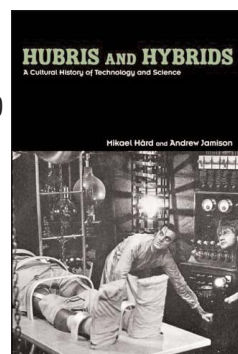


## Hubris and Hybrids

### A Cultural History of Technology and Science

Mikael HARD & Andrew JAMISON 336pp Tp \$54.00

Leading authors survey scientific and technological developments in the United States, Europe and Asia over a 500-year period, focusing on the key achievements of different communities. Rather than adopting the conventional production-oriented perspectives that relegate the broader social and cultural ramifications to the background, the authors highlight how societies have tamed the hubris that is fundamental to the innovative spirit.

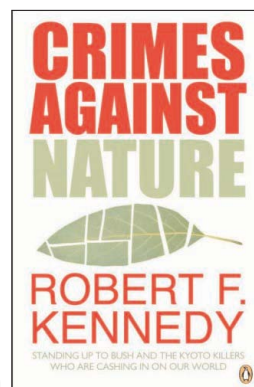


## Crimes Against Nature

### Standing Up to Bush and the Kyoto Killers who are Cashing in on Our World

Robert KENNEDY 256pp Pb \$24.95

Kennedy, one of the world's most prominent environmental lawyers, charges the White House with the crime of pursuing private profit and personal power at the expense of clean air, clean water and live wildlife, enriching the President's pals while lowering the quality of life for the rest of us. He lifts the lid on an administration whose policies have looted American money, helped its most notorious polluters and deceived its public. He shows how, in a cabinet that boasts more CEOs than any in history, industry lobbyists wield an unprecedented influence on policy; how the government has rolled back key environmental laws and suppressed reports on issues like global warming, while covering up its true agenda with clever PR; how Bush preaches individualism, yet doles out lavish subsidies to the energy barons; and how everyone's health and security worldwide are being sacrificed at the altar of profit.



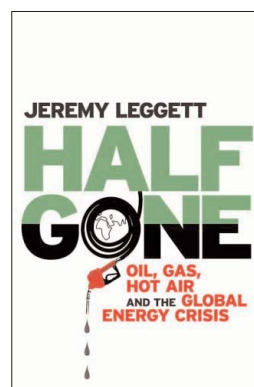
## Half Gone

### Oil, Gas, Hot Air

### And the Global Energy Crisis

Jeremy LEGGETT 320pp Tp \$32.95

Leggett, a geologist who spent the 1980s in the service of 'Big Oil' before jumping ship in the 90s to become Chief Scientist at Greenpeace UK and then launching his own renewable energy initiatives, understands the scale of the impending crisis and the need for us to act now. With watertight knowledge and sobering clarity, he explains how we became addicted to oil and how this habit is dragging us into an increasingly dangerous dependence upon the Middle East and toward economic and environmental catastrophe. And yet his outlook is paradoxically positive, for all the technology we need to get off this road to disaster is already at hand.



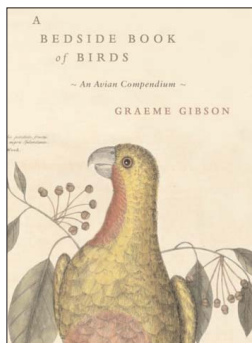
## A Bedside Book of Birds

### An Avian Compendium

Graeme GIBSON

384pp Hb \$59.95

Featured in the vast majority of mythologies and religions, birds are generally associated with creativity and the human spirit. From the Christian dove to Quetzalcoatl (the Aztec plumed serpent) and from Raven Man to Plato's description of the soul growing wings and feathers, birds have represented the soul in contrast to the body, the spiritual as opposed to the earthly. This is an unexpected and fascinating treasure trove of paintings, drawings, essays and scientific observations, marvellously conveying the hope, longing and enchantment that birds have evoked in humans in all times and cultures.



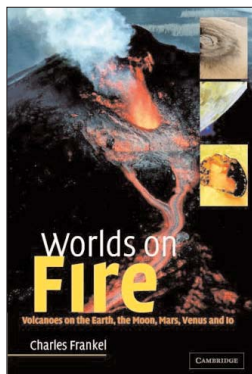
## Worlds on Fire

### Volcanoes on the Earth, the Moon, Mars, Venus and Io

Charles FRANKEL

358pp Hb \$75.00

This excellent book takes the reader on a fascinating tour of the mightiest volcanoes in the Solar System. From Kilauea volcano in Hawaii and Mount Etna in Sicily, it leaps to the lava fields and rilles of the Moon, retraces the historic footsteps of the Apollo astronauts and describes new volcanic provinces to explore. The three largest volcanoes of Mars are profiled, amongst others. The strange world of Venus, revealed by radar, opens our perspective of volcanism to features never seen before: pancake domes of puffed-up lava and gigantic fault rings sitting over buried magma chambers. Also new is the 4th edition of **Volcanoes** (Pb \$75.00) by Robert and Barbara Decker, a classic introductory text fully updated.



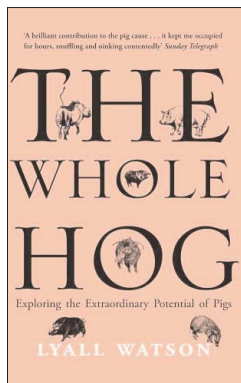
## The Whole Hog

### Exploring the Extraordinary Potential of Pigs

Lyll WATSON

288pp Pb \$26.95

George Orwell was right. Pigs are unquestionably the farmyard animals most likely to succeed. But why, exactly? Science has been slow to pin down the source of their superiority. Pigs are dramatically different from their closest and more placid relatives, sheep, deer and cattle. During 40 million years of evolution, they seem to have made a series of canny decisions, adapting to changing circumstances much as humans have - by becoming more versatile, more gregarious and more curious. 16 species of wild pigs now occupy every continent except Australia and Antarctica, filling in the environmental gaps by deploying a panoply of domestic and feral forms - pigs for all seasons. Watson has tracked pigs in the wild, observed their resourceful and playful lives, deciphered their grunts and oinks - and he is convinced pigs deserve new respect.



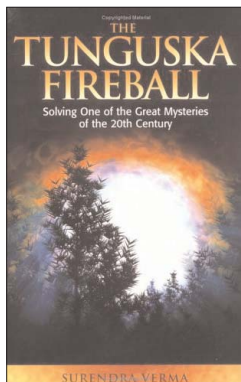
## The Tunguska Fireball

### Solving One of the Great Mysteries of the 20th Century

Surendra VERMA

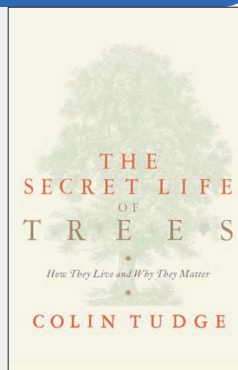
240pp Hb \$35.00

At 7.14 am on 30 June 1908, a huge fireball exploded in the Siberian sky. A thousand times the force of the Hiroshima bomb, it flattened an area of remote Tunguska forest bigger than Greater London, forming a mushroom cloud that almost reached into space. 600 kilometres away, the Trans-Siberian Express rattled wildly on its newly built tracks. Tremors registered in distant St Petersburg and the unusually bright night skies seen across England over the next few nights prompted letters to *The Times*. Still no-one knows what really happened. Suspects range from comets or mini black holes to the realms of sci-fi and conspiracy: a laser beam fired by extraterrestrials or an early nuclear experiment. Verma tells the incredible story of the Fireball and of the scientists and charlatans alike who have been seduced by it.



### In **The Secret Life of Trees: How They Live and Why They Matter**

(452pp Hb \$49.95), Colin Tudge travels from his own back garden right around the world, bringing back the stories and facts behind the trees around us - from how they live so long and how they really work, to how they talk to each other and why they came to exist in the first place.



**Genesis** (339pp Hb \$45.95) by Robert Hazen is a fascinating look at the search for the origin of life by a leader in the field. It's a personal guide to recent and current efforts to determine exactly what it means to say that something is alive and looks for the earliest examples of life on Earth.

**Dinosaur Provincial Park** (648pp Hb \$95.00), edited by Philip Currie and Eva Koppelhus, was published to mark the 50th anniversary of this major dinosaur fossil site, located in Alberta, Canada. It is the first scientific overview of the Park, its flora and fauna, its major fossil discoveries and its ecology.

Put together by many brilliant minds - including Richard Feynman and Murray Gell-Mann - the Standard Model combines Einstein's special relativity with quantum mechanics and describes everything from the reactions that power the sun to the interactions that cause fluorescent lights to glow. **The Theory of Almost Everything** (327pp Hb \$39.95) by Robert Oerter reveals the Standard Model - the most important theory in modern physics - to the general reader.

The great inventor and futurist Ray Kurzweil is one of the best-known and most controversial advocates for the role of machines in the future of humanity. In **The Singularity is Near** (652pp Hb \$59.95), he envisions an event - the "singularity" - in which technological change becomes so rapid and so profound that our bodies and brains will merge with our machines. It portrays what life will be like after this event - a human-machine civilisation where our experiences shift from real reality to virtual reality and where our intelligence becomes non-biological and trillions of times more powerful.

David Mermin's **It's About Time** (192pp Hb \$49.95) is a readable and complete exposition of the nature of time as addressed in Einstein's special theory of relativity and is accessible to readers without training in the sciences. Published on the 100th anniversary of Einstein's famous 1905 paper, it assumes only competency in simple high school algebra and a bit of elementary plane geometry.

New in paperback is Dan O'Neill's **The Last Giant of Beringia: The Mystery of the Bering Land Bridge** (231pp \$26.00). It tells how the geologist Dave Hopkins confirmed the theory of a land bridge (now called Beringia) linking Siberia and Alaska during the Ice Ages, providing a path for prehistoric giants such as woolly mammoths, steppe bison and sabre-toothed cats.

**Eclipses 2005-2017** (188pp Pb \$29.95) by Wolfgang Held is a handbook which provides detailed information on where to see the solar and lunar eclipses that are visible from Earth for the next 12 years.

In **Albert Einstein: Chief Engineer of the Universe** (472pp Hb \$55.95) edited by Jürgen Renn, 100 authors explain the historical background of Einstein's life and work, shed light on many different aspects of his biography, and on the scientific fields and topics that are connected to Einstein's work. The essays form a bridge between scientific and cultural history, opening up a perspective on Einstein's biography which goes beyond the traditional picture of this exceptional science genius.

*Dave*



# Penguin Great Ideas Series

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Buy any two titles from this series in January and go in the draw to win a boxed gift set of 20 titles in the series.

Winner announced in March *Advocate*.

## Eichmann and the Holocaust by Hanna Arendt

Inspired by the trial of a bureaucrat who helped cause the Holocaust, this radical work on the banality of evil stunned the world with its exploration of a regime's moral blindness and one man's insistence that he be absolved of guilt because he was "only following orders".

## The Myth of Sisyphus by Albert Camus

Inspired by the myth of a man condemned to ceaselessly push a rock up a mountain and watch it roll back to the valley below, this myth transformed 20th century philosophy with its impassioned argument for the value of life in a world without religious meaning.

## Conspicuous Consumption by Thorsten Veblen

With its wry portrayal of a shallow, materialistic 'leisure class' obsessed by clothes, cars, consumer goods and climbing the social ladder, this withering satire on modern capitalism is as pertinent today as it was when written over a century ago.

## On Suicide by David Hume

One of the most important thinkers ever to write in English, the Empiricist David Hume liberated philosophy from the superstitious constraints of religion; here, he argues that all are free to choose between life and death, considers the nature of personal taste and succinctly criticises common philosophies of the time.

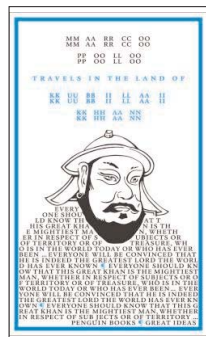
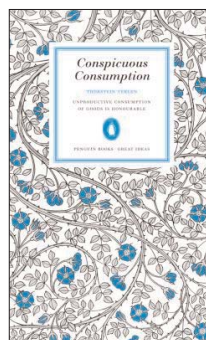
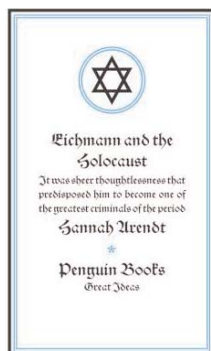
## Fear and Trembling by Soren Kierkegaard

The Father of Existentialism, Kierkegaard transformed philosophy with his conviction that we must all create our own nature; in this great work of religious anxiety, he argues that a true understanding of God can only be attained by making a personal 'leap of faith'.

## Travels in the Land of Kubilai Khan

by Marco Polo

A profound influence on medieval Europe's view of the wider world, this 13th century account of a Venetian merchant's amazing experiences in the court of the great Mongol leader, Kubilai Khan, remains one of the most fascinating tales of exploration ever written.



## Of Man by Thomas Hobbes

The founding father of modern political philosophy, Hobbes - living in an era of horrific violence - saw human life as meaningless and cruel. He argues the only way to escape this brutality is for all to accept a 'social contract' that acknowledges the greater authority of a Sovereign leader.

## Of Empire by Francis Bacon

Bacon's landmark writings on subjects ranging from anger and ambition, marriage and money to envy and empire established him as the founding father of modern scientific thinking, with his rejection of superstition and his emphasis on proof and experiment, rational enquiry and reasoned argument.

## On Natural Selection by Charles Darwin

Charles Darwin's seismic theory of evolution turned the Victorian world upside down, utterly rewrote our notions of life on earth and is still attacked by religious creationists today.

## Why I am So Wise by Freiderich Nietzsche

"I am not a man, I am dynamite"  
- Friedrich Nietzsche

## A Vindication of the Rights of Woman

by Mary Wollstonecroft

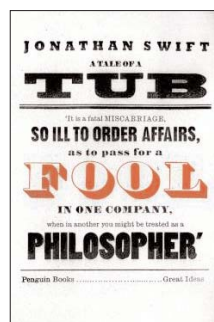
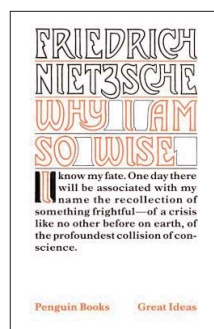
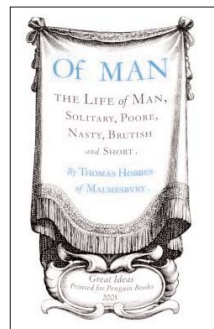
A passionate declaration of female independence from the founder of modern feminism.

## A Tale of a Tub by Johnathan Swift

Swift's exuberant, bawdy fable is a unique satire on politics, religion, fashion, madness and on writing itself.

## Miracles and Idolatry by Francois Voltaire

Voltaire's short, radical and iconoclastic essays on philosophical ideas - from angels to idolatry and miracles to wickedness - make wry observations about human beliefs, while mocking hypocrisy and extravagant piety. His call to his fellow men to act with reason and see through the lies they are fed by their leaders has provided inspiration to free thinkers everywhere.



## Miscellaneous

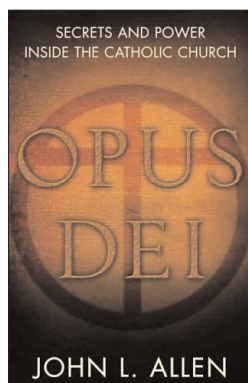
### Opus Dei

#### Secrets and Power Inside the Catholic Church

John ALLEN

416pp Tp \$32.95

Accused of promoting a right-wing political agenda, of cult-like practices, and immortalised by Dan Brown in the pages of *The Da Vinci Code* (Pb \$19.95), Opus Dei is the most notorious, talked about but least known religious organisation of our time. Granted unlimited access to those within its ranks, and with an investigative eye intent on uncovering closely guarded secrets, Allen finally separates the myths from the facts: the actual use of the cilice; the reason men and women remain separate and the true extent of Opus Dei's funds. Built around a wealth of interviews with the heads of Opus Dei in the Vatican and in centres around the world, comparing the attitudes of current members with those of highly critical members and outsiders, this is a portrait of a remarkably powerful organisation, both inside and outside the Church.

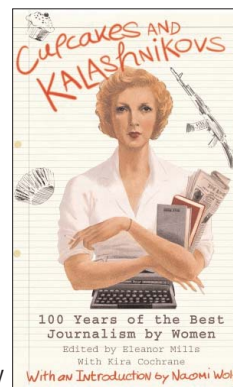


### Cupcakes and Kalashnikovs

#### 100 Years of the Best Journalism by Women

Eleanor MILLS (ed) 400p Pb \$27.95

Many female journalists came to the fore during the First and Second World Wars and their perspective was very different to that of their male peers, who were reporting from the field. Specifically, they often wrote about war from the perspective of those left at home, struggling to keep the household afloat. And with *How it Feels to be Forcibly Fed* (1914) by Djuna Barnes - one of the world's first experiential or 'gonzo' journalists - came a new age of reporting. Many of the pieces here feel almost unsettlingly relevant today - the conclusions Emma 'Red' Goldman drew in her 1916 *The Social Aspects of Birth Control*, Maddy Vegtel's 1930s article about becoming pregnant at 40 and Eleanor Roosevelt's call for greater tolerance after America's race riots in 1943. Many have pushed other limits: Naomi Wolf's *Beauty Myth* (Pb \$26.95) brought feminism to a new generation, while Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones* caused a media revolution.

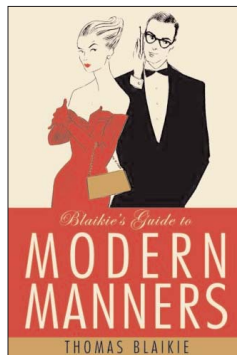


## Blaikie's Guide to Modern Manners

Thomas BLAIKIE

144pp Hb \$29.95

Until recently, social conduct (as it was known) was illogical but easy. There were rules, and everybody knew and adhered to them. "Don't hold your knife like a pen." "Offer to pass your neighbour the salt/ pepper/ water/ butter. Don't wait for them to ask." Scarcely a trace remains now of this bizarre labyrinthine world of manners. "Come as you are," we say, "Be yourself." But the age of emails and metrosexuality has thrown up a whole new set of social dilemmas. We don't know what to do. Our free-and-easy ways have left us in a vacuum of uncertainty and embarrassment. Take the nightmare of social kissing. How many times? In what order? Where and at what stage of an acquaintance? What about thanking? Do you have to thank at all? What do you do if a guest wants to smoke in your house? What do you wear to a dinner party? Do you have to bring a bottle? For those not quite sure how to behave, Blaikie aims to spare our blushes.



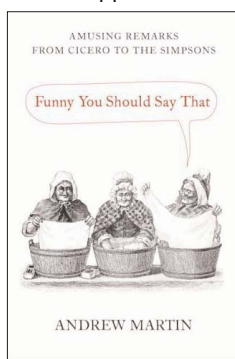
## Funny You Should Say That

Amusing Remarks from Cicero to the Simpsons

Andrew MARTIN (ed)

400pp Hb \$49.95

"A fool and his words are soon parted" wrote William Shenstone in 1764; one might add that "A wit and his words are rarely collected". Here is the antidote: a dazzling survey of the funniest remarks, quips and observations from Ancient Rome, the Bible and Chaucer right up to *The Simpsons* and *Little Britain*. Over 5,000 of the funniest remarks to have appeared on paper since, well, paper was invented. The quotations are arranged thematically and cover all aspects of life: from the world we inhabit to the things we eat, smoke and drink; from the way we move around to what and how we learn - oh, and the pointlessness of football. Within each theme, the quotations are chronologically placed so the reader gets a real sense of the development of thought about each subject - as well as seeing how jokes evolve over the years and, in some cases, who 'borrowed' from whom.



## The Oxford Companion to the Photograph

Robin LENMAN

769pp Hb \$130.00

This is the first Oxford Companion to deal with the subject of photography. It appears at a watershed time in the medium's history, as digital imaging increasingly dominates the global photography scene at both amateur and professional levels. In addition to a wide range of technical information, the book encapsulates in concise and readily accessible form the mass of recent scholarship on photography as a social and artistic practice, organised both thematically and geographically. There are over 800 biographical entries, both on photographers and on other individuals who have significantly influenced photographic culture from the early 19th century to the present. This book's immense scope is worldwide. A must-have for all serious photographers.



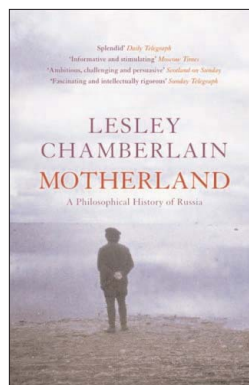
## Motherland

A Philosophical History of Russia

Lesley CHAMBERLAIN

256pp Tp \$32.95

Chamberlain - novelist, traveller and historian of ideas - has been pondering the enigma of Russia for over 30 years. She finds that during the last two centuries, Russian intellectuals have asked two fundamental questions: "what makes a good man?" and "what is the right way to live?" This is a unique introduction to the key Russian thinkers and an eloquently narrated journey in the history of ideas that, finally, gives us a glimpse into the soul of a singular country.



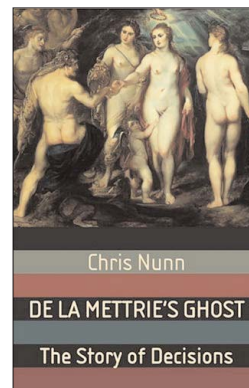
## De La Mettrie's Ghost

The Story of Decisions

Chris NUNN

224pp Hb \$49.95

This book is about how we make choices. Drawing together evidence from 21st century chemistry to Victorian politics, enlightenment philosophy, Roman drama and beyond, it is a compelling hunt for the nature of free will. Nunn elegantly explores the revolutions in medicine, genetics, bioethics and neuroscience spurred by Julien de la Mettrie's 300-year-old concept of 'Man the Machine'. He finds that though formerly fruitful, this mechanistic view of human experience has now brought neuroscientists and philosophers to an impasse. He therefore proposes a powerful replacement metaphor for the workings of the human brain (man the story) and demonstrates how this original approach could reconcile the results of cutting-edge brain-imaging with our intuitive understanding of decision making, responsibility and determinism.



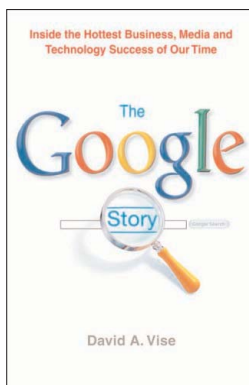
## The Google Story

Inside the Hottest Business, Media and Technology Success of Our Time

David VISE

326pp Hb \$35.00

Used in over 100 countries by more than 65 million users a day, Google is the most well-known global brand to emerge in decades. It has become so popular that its name has become a verb. Based on scrupulous research and extraordinary access to the founders of Google, this book takes you inside the creation and growth of a company that has transformed how we access information about everything and everybody. Vise details the amazing network of thousands of computers that store over four billion web documents and which are kept in specially chilled, secretly located rooms. He highlights the creative ways Google makes money while it provides a free service to millions and conveys the world of 'Googleplex', the company's colourful Silicon Valley headquarters, where staff receive free massages at the end of the day. But even as it rides high, Google wrestles with difficult challenges in a business that changes at lightning speed.

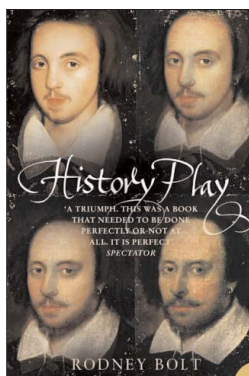


## History Play

Rodney BOLT

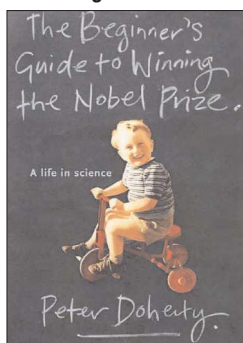
228pp Pb \$24.95

What if Christopher Marlowe staged his own death, fled to the Continent and went on to write the works we now attribute to Shakespeare? Mark Twain likened writing the biography of Shakespeare to reconstructing the skeleton of a brontosaurus - using "nine bones and six hundred barrels of plaster of Paris". All biographies of Shakespeare, from the wayward to the academic, use the same few hard facts, kneaded together with legend and a large dollop of author's imagination. Poems and plays are plundered for booty, even by those who profess scepticism as to the inferences that can be drawn about the life from the work. Like statistics, quotations can be turned to very different conclusions. Bolt provides a clever tapestry of a story, weaving together the lives of Shakespeare and Marlowe with Royal intrigue.





10th December saw the presentation of the *Nobel Prizes*, which included two more Australians - Robin Warren and Barry Marshall - for their work on stomach ulcers. How can we keep ensuring that such people receive public acknowledgement? Peter Doherty's biography, **The Beginner's Guide to Winning the Nobel Prize: A Life in Science** (\$34.95 Hb), is in my favourite section - Science: History & Biography. This book is not intimidatingly scientific and could just as easily be in Australian Biography. In Australian History, we have a book that should be in every library, **Australia's Nobel Laureates: Adventures in Innovation 1915-1996** by Julian Cribb et al (\$44.95 Hb). These are great stories. Read them and dream. Maybe someone you know is a future Nobel Laureate? Hard to tell!



So Harold Pinter won the *Nobel Prize for Literature* - and well deserved. As well as his **Plays** in three volumes (Plays 1 & 2 \$22.95 each, Plays 3 \$26.95), we have his **Various Voices: Prose, Poetry and Politics 1948-78** (\$29.95 Pb) in Poetry. In this book, opposite the title page, there is a very long list of his works. Interesting that among his screenplays was the script for John Fowles' **The French Lieutenant's Woman** (\$23.95). John Fowles, who also wrote **The Magus** (\$24.95), sadly died late last year.

I was attracted to read an unusual history, **Genghis Khan: Life, Death and Resurrection** by John Man (\$24.95 Pb 431pp incl index). What an immortal name! This fascinating history - and travel writing - is by an author who was one of the first to explore the hidden valley, in seldom visited territory, where Genghis may have died. Mongolia and China revere Genghis Khan, while Muslims, Russians and Europeans regard him as a scourge. Find this in Asian History: Ancient & Medieval, along with another unusual biography by the same author, **Attila: A Barbarian King and the Fall of Rome** (\$39.95 Tp 324pp). You can read more about these far-away places in **The Real Far East: Way Beyond Siberia** by Tony Barrell (\$30 Tp 248pp). This is exciting stuff, as the Russian pioneers - whether voluntary or forced - move out and their Asian neighbours wait to move in. Find this one in Travel.

In November, Language Book Centre sent out their new catalogues for Primary LOTE and Secondary LOTE (Languages Other Than English), which are especially good for teachers. If you would like one, please phone (02) 9267 1397 or email [language@abbey.com.au](mailto:language@abbey.com.au) and we'll send you one. If you're a parent of a small child and there are two languages in your house, you would especially like some of the fascinating material in the Primary LOTE. Lots of new stuff is always arriving - story books, stamps, stickers, games, activities and of course dictionaries and CDs.

The Australian History section is always busy, although Manning Clark is now almost out of favour. If you want an enjoyable read, try Gerald Stone's **1932: A Hell of a Year** (\$45 Hb 429pp incl index). The famous *60 Minutes* producer chose 1932 as a time of great change in Australia and, after a lot of research, shows us in fascinating detail just what was happening that year - the New Guard, the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge, Jack Lang's problems, Depression marches, divorces and murders, Francis de Groot dining out on his famous ribbon-cutting for years, maybe even the threat of civil war.

Despite my predilection for smaller books, I was persuaded to pick up a large new book in Fiction called **The Book Thief** by Marcus Zusak (\$32.95 Tp). Although it has 584 pages, the print is large (on good paper), there is plenty of white space and some tender illustrations, so it is not such a long book after all. It is, however, a gorgeous book. Inventive, original and touching. The author is a young Sydney man who has previously published books for Older Readers (as in *Older Young Readers*), including **The Messenger** (\$16.95 Pb), which was well received overseas, as I'm sure this new novel will be too. It tells the story of a young German girl living with her foster parents in Munich during WWII. She learns to read late, with the help of her accordion-playing Papa. Books are her hooks into life. It is a great story with unusual use of words and vivid images. It was especially interesting to read about the life of the "enemy". Death is the narrator, a sometimes understanding one.

A new hardback classic arrived from Hesperus Press. "How could this be new?", I wondered, it's by Charles Dickens! However, it is indeed new, being a republication of some of the small stories published at Christmas in 1863 and 1864 by Dickens and his contemporaries, including Elizabeth Gaskell, Hesba Stretton, Rosa Mulholland and Amelia Edwards. **Mrs Lirriper** (\$34.95 Hb) comprises 2 parts: *Mrs Lirriper's Lodgings* and *Mrs Lirriper's Legacy*. Mrs L runs a lodging house and these stories are about her various lodgers. Perhaps comparable to Armistead Maupin's **Tales of the City** stories set in San Francisco (we have all these, priced from \$21.95 to \$24.95). Or Alexander McCall Smith's **44 Scotland Street** (\$22.95 Pb), set in Edinburgh's New Town, a sequel to which has just arrived - **Espresso Tales** (\$34.95 Hb 345pp). McCall Smith can indeed be compared to Dickens. He is a prolific writer and very fond of his characters, as you will be too.

We have received some interesting titles from Hesperus Press over the last year, so I decided to look them up. Founded only in 2002 by two Italians living in London, their aim is to publish unjustly neglected works, usually minor works by major writers, or new translations of foreign literature. Their production standards are good and their prices reasonable, so look for these unusual items in our famous classics row. For example, Guy de Maupassant's **Butterball** (\$21.95), Alexander Pushkin's **Dubrovsky** (\$21.95) or Jane Austen's **Lesley Castle** (\$21.95 Pb).

Many years ago, we had a large section for Nautical and Transport books, but no longer, so now World History ends up receiving some titles that can't find a home elsewhere! For instance, Richard Woodman's **The History of the Ship: The Comprehensive Story of Seafaring from the Earliest Times to the Present Day** (\$24.95 Pb 514pp incl index).

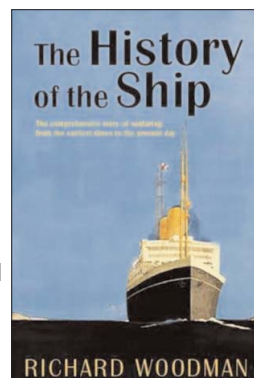
This is good value and also fascinating reading, as the author - who also writes the Nathaniel Drinkwater stories (in Historical Fiction) - writes in a most engaging fashion and confesses to his own enthusiasms borne of his long seagoing experience. You don't need to be a Naval History buff to enjoy this, but if you are, then you'll absolutely love it. Some of his other titles are **Arctic Convoys 1941-45** (\$29.95 Tp), **The Real Cruel Sea: The Merchant Navy in the Battle of the Atlantic 1939-43** (\$35), **Sea Warriors** (\$24.95) and **Shadow of the Eagle** (\$18.95), all in 20th Century History. The Nathaniel Drinkwater adventures are mostly collected in omnibus editions now. In stock now we have **Death or Damnation** (4th omnibus) and **Distant Gunfire** (5th omnibus) both \$28.

It's the start of another year - and perhaps you have time to indulge in some poetic reading for relaxation. There is a new translation, by a Polish émigré who is a long-time Sydney resident, of one of Poland's most famous poems. This is **Pan Tadeusz: The Last Foray in Lithuania: A Tale of the Gentry During 1811-1812** (\$35 Pb 323pp). This epic poem by Adam Mickiewicz was first published in Paris in 1834. At first unsuccessful, today it is essential on any Polish bookshelf. The translator is Marcel Weyland and the pencil illustrations are by Philippa Weyland. Everyone can enjoy this charming tale of the little events of life. The National Library of Australia has just issued a nice edition of **A Collection of Verse** by C J Dennis (\$24.95 Pb 60pp) with Hal Gye illustrations and a short biography. This looks similar to their **Little Book of Australian Children's Rhymes** (\$15.50 Pb 48pp), with poems old and new from May Gibbs to Komninos.

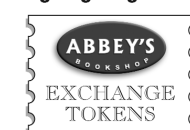
Ron Abbey died in July this year and now his partner Leigh Clarke has decided to close their excellent second-hand bookshop, Ron Abbey's Bookhouse. Before closing, there will be a final Half Price Sale in January (see box next page). Bowral is such a pretty town (now less than 2 hour's drive from Sydney), you may like to use this as an excuse to visit. You can also browse through a lot of their stock at [www.abebooks.com/home/rabookhouse](http://www.abebooks.com/home/rabookhouse).

Have a happy new year,

*Eve*



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## Abbey's Bestsellers: December 2005

### Fiction

- The Sea** by John Banville (Tp \$30.00)
- The Final Unfinished Voyage of Jack Aubrey** by Patrick O'Brian (Tp \$32.95)
- Kafka on the Shore** by Haruki Murakami (Pb \$24.95)
- The Penelopiad** by Margaret Atwood (Pb \$22.00)
- The Commonwealth of Thieves** by Thomas Keneally (Hb \$49.95)
- On Beauty** by Zadie Smith (Tp \$29.95)
- You Gotta Have Balls** by Lily Brett (Tp \$32.95)
- French Cats Don't Get Fat** by Henry Beard (Hb \$22.00)
- 44 Scotland Street** by Alexander McCall Smith (Pb \$22.95)
- The Brooklyn Follies** by Paul Auster (Tp \$29.95)

### Non-Fiction

- The Silver Spoon** (Hb \$59.95)
- The Great War for Civilisation** by Robert Fisk (Tp \$39.95)
- Is History Fiction?** by Ann Curthoys and John Docker (Pb \$39.95)
- Persian Fire: The First World Empire and the Battle for the West** by Tom Holland (Hb \$49.95)
- Whose Bible is it?: A History of the Scriptures Through the Ages** by Jaroslav Pelikan (Hb \$49.95)
- The Ancestors Tale: A Pilgrimage to the Dawn of Evolution** by Richard Dawkins (Pb \$29.95)
- The Briefest English Grammar Ever** by Ruth Colman (Pb \$14.95)
- The CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet** by Dr Manny Noakes & Peter Clifton (Pb \$29.95)
- The Pedant's Revolt: Why Most Things You Think Are Right Are Wrong** by Andrea Barham (Hb \$24.95)
- A Figure of Speech: A Political Memoir** by Graham Freudenberg (Hb \$49.95)

### Now in Paperback

**Everything is Illuminated** by Jonathan Safran Foer \$24.95

A young man arrives in the Ukraine, clutching in his hand a tattered photograph. He is searching for the woman who, 50 years ago, saved his grandfather from the Nazis. He is aided in his quest by Alex, a translator with an uncanny ability to mangle English into bizarre new forms; a 'blind' old man haunted by memories of the war; and an undersexed guide dog named Sammy Davis Jr, Jr. What they are looking for seems elusive - a truth hidden behind veils of time, language and the horrors of war. What they find turns all their worlds upside down.

**Truth and Beauty: A Friendship** by Ann Patchett \$22.95

Bestselling author and *Orange Prize* winner, Patchett's first work of non-fiction is a searing, emotionally wrenching account of her long friendship with the critically acclaimed, and recently deceased, author, Lucy Grealy.

**Making Friends with Hitler: Lord Londonderry and Britain's Road to War** by Ian Kershaw \$27.95  
Lord Londonderry, patriot, cousin of Churchill, was the government minister responsible for the RAF at a crucial point in its existence. His reaction to the rise of Hitler - to pursue friendship with the Nazis at all costs - raises fundamental questions about Britain's role in the 1930s and whether in practice there was any possibility of preventing Hitler from leading Europe once again into war.

**Occidentalism: A Short History of Anti-Westernism** by Ian Buruma & Avishai Margalit \$24.95  
A pioneering investigation of the lineage of anti-Western stereotypes that traces them back to the West itself.

**Language Most Foul** by Ruth Wajnryb \$22.95

A meticulously researched, highly entertaining, idiosyncratic look at the how, why and what of bad language around the world.

**The Lambs of London** by Peter Ackroyd \$23.95

Ackroyd brilliantly creates an urban world of scholars and entrepreneurs, a world in which a clever son will stop at nothing to impress his showman father, and no one knows quite what to believe.

**The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy** by David Cannadine \$28.00

At the outset of the 1870s, the British aristocracy could rightly consider themselves the most fortunate people on earth: they held the lion's share of land, wealth and power in the world's greatest empire. By the end of the 1930s, they had lost not only a generation of sons in the First World War, but also much of their prosperity, prestige and political significance.

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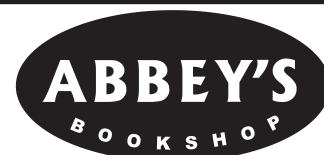
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Prices are correct at time of publication but unfortunately are subject to change.

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey, David Hall, Lindy Jones, Ann Leahy & Cara Willetts

### Binding Key

Pb	Paperback
Tp	Trade paperback (larger format)
Lp	Large paperback (very large)
Hb	Hardback
Lh	Large hardback (very large)
Ca	Cassettes