

# ABBEY'S ADVOCATE

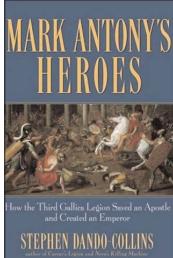
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## Mark Antony's Heroes

### How the Third Gallica Legion Saved an Apostle and Created an Emperor

Stephen DANDO-COLLINS 304pp Hb \$38.95

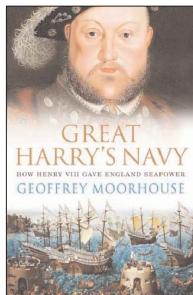
In Dando-Collins' fourth instalment in his seminal histories of the legions of ancient Rome, he paints a vivid portrait of the Third Gallica Legion from the unique vantage point of the soldiers. Drawing on scores of classical texts, he tells the gripping story of a unit that made a name for itself under Mark Antony, only to watch its early glory fade and rise again. Dreaded by friend and foe alike, they used their muscle to install Herod the Great and Caesar Vespasian on their thrones. They made Rome's enemies, from one side of the empire to the other, dread their legion's name. They were renowned as the fearless servants of two Mark Antonys, saving the skin of Cleopatra's lover and making possible the meteoric career of Mark Antony Primus. By weaving together new information about the legionaries' lives with factual Roman military practices, this is a landmark in ancient military history. Due Jan



## Great Harry's Navy

Geoffrey MOORHOUSE 416pp Pb \$27.00

It was Henry VIII who began the process of making England a first-rate sea-power. He inherited no more than seven warships from his father King Henry VII, yet by the time of his death, the King's Navy had 53 seaworthy ships afloat (much the same number as the Royal Navy today) manned by almost 8,000 sailors. Here was the springboard for Queen Elizabeth's captains, such as Francis Drake, a decade later. Henry VIII originally needed a navy to hold the English Channel and blockade the enemy while he invaded France. Later, when invasion from the continent grew serious, Henry's navy fought in many actions. Thanks to Henry VIII, dockyards were built (Greenwich and Deptford), timber had to be felled in quantities previously unknown, hemp was harvested for rope and new skills were developed, not least the gun-founders and the master shipwrights. The celebrated Henry Grace a Dieu (aka 'Great Harry') was the biggest ship in the world - 1,000 tons, 122 guns, 700 crew, while the Mary Rose (500 tons, 80 guns, 40 crew) became one of the most famous after she heeled over too far, took water and sank off Portsmouth with the loss of almost all hands. Due Jan

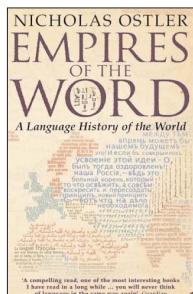


## Empires of the Word

### A Language History of the World

Nicholas OSTLER 688pp Tp \$40.00

The story of the world in the last 5,000 years is above all the story of its languages. A shared language is what binds any community together and makes possible both the living of a common history and the telling of it. Yet the history of the world's great languages has rarely been examined. This book is the first to bring together the tales in all their glorious variety: the amazing innovations - in education, culture and diplomacy - devised by speakers in the Middle East; the uncanny resilience of Chinese throughout 20 centuries of invasions; the progress of Sanskrit from north India to Java and Japan; the struggle that gave birth to the languages of modern Europe and the global spread of English. Besides these epic achievements, language failures are equally fascinating: why did Germany get left behind? Why did Egyptian, which had survived foreign takeovers for three millennia, succumb to Mohammed's Arabic? Why is Dutch unknown in modern Indonesia, given that the Netherlands had ruled the East Indies for as long as the British ruled India? Due Jan



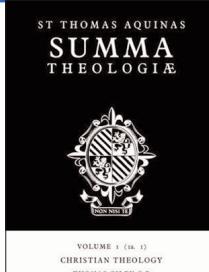
## Summa Theologiae

### The Complete Paperback Set

Saint Thomas AQUINAS

61 volumes 14,716pp \$2,500\*

The Summa Theologiae ranks among the greatest documents of the Christian Church and is a landmark of medieval Western thought. This paperback reissue of the classic Latin/English edition first published by the English Dominicans in the 1960s and 1970s has been undertaken in response to regular requests from around the world. The original text is unchanged, except for the correction of a small number of typographical errors. The parallel English and Latin texts can be used successfully by anybody with a basic knowledge of Latin, while the presence of the Latin text allowed the translators a degree of freedom in adapting their English version for modern readers.



\*Available at this special price until 31 January 2007 (usually \$2,999)

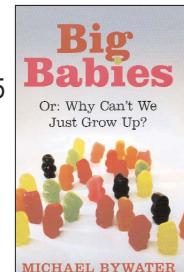
## Big Babies

### Or Why Can't We Just Grow Up?

Michael BYWATER

256pp Tp \$29.95

Something has gone wrong, says Bywater at the start of this conversationally grumpy-old-man rant against the evils of civilisation-as-we-know-it. We've all turned into Babies - Big ones at that - unable to accept responsibility for our actions, look out for ourselves, postpone gratification, resist embellishments or empathise with others, and in a constant discontented lather of must-have-now. Detailing how we are increasingly infantilised, assailed by advertising, manipulated by media, government and THEM, this is both cogently argued and astonishingly entertaining. Just see if you can read it without nodding your head in constant agreement, or reading relevant bits out loud to anyone who will just stop still long enough! Lindy



## Boyer Lectures 2006

### Search for Stability

Ian MACFARLANE

144pp Pb \$22.95

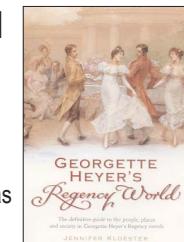
Macfarlane examines how Australia has struggled to find a means of ensuring a stable growth path for the economy. We thought we had it, we lost it disastrously, we half regained it, then we fully regained it. But is it permanent or is there a new set of challenges waiting to trap us? The lectures cover: The Golden Age, From Golden Age to Stagflation, Reform and Deregulation, The Recession of 1990 and its Legacy, The Long Expansion and Challenges for the Future.

## Georgette Heyer's Regency World

Jennifer KLOESTER

240pp Hb \$59.95

A bestselling novelist since 1921, Heyer is known across the world for her historical romances set in Regency England. Millions of readers love this period for its fashion, famous people and events, and its elegant and often outrageous mayfly upper-class. It was Heyer who created the Regency genre of historical fiction in the 1930s and 40s with books such as



**Regency Buck** (Pb \$22.95) and **Friday's Child** (Pb \$23.95). Since then, in many minds, Heyer and the Regency have become synonymous. This is the ultimate, definitive guide to Heyer's world: her heroines, her villains and dashing heroes, the shops, clubs and towns they frequented, the parties and seasons they celebrated, how they ate, drank, dressed, socialised, shopped and drove.

## January Trading Hours

Regular trading hours except for

1 Mon New Year's Day

closed

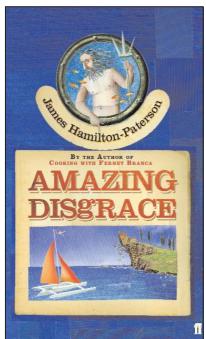
26 Fri Australia Day

10am - 5pm

# Fiction

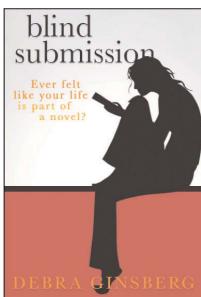
## Amazing Disgrace

James HAMILTON-PATERSON 288pp Tp \$29.95  
 Gerald Samper is a ghost-writer to the stars... rock singers, racing drivers, ski champions... and Millie Cleat, the monstrous one-armed sailor whose round-the-world voyage has made her the toast of Britain and who has become the poster-girl for the Deep Blues, a mystical and nutty environmental group. Gerald pines for greater things, however, and would prefer to write the memoirs of Max Christ, the celebrated conductor. While he schemes to land this unattainable catch, he muses hilariously and viciously on the world of which he is such an unwilling part, looking out from his Tuscan hilltop and pining for his neighbour Marta, offspring of a crime family from Voyanova, who disappeared one day into thin air. Due Jan



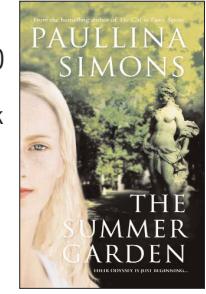
## Blind Submission

Debra GINSBERG 432pp Pb \$22.95  
 Angel Robinson loves books, so when she lands a job as assistant to Lucy Fiamma, literary agent to the stars, it seems all her dreams have come true. Angel reveals a talent for choosing bestsellers, but success comes at a price - she is overworked, underpaid, hardly ever sees her gorgeous writer boyfriend and soon starts to wonder about the way histrionic Lucy does business. It's a case of truth being stranger than fiction. When a single chapter arrives anonymously by email, Angel encourages the author to keep writing. But soon it seems the plot lines of Angel's own life are being borrowed for the manuscript, a revenge story featuring a monstrous boss and her brilliant, hard-working assistant. Chapter by chapter, fiction starts to resemble reality, whatever that is! Who is controlling who? Why won't the author reveal their identity? And who is infiltrating Angel's heart? Not so much a whodunit as a who-wrote-it, you'll be kept guessing until the very last page. Due Jan



## The Summer Garden

Paulina SIMONS 400pp Pb \$25.00  
 Following *The Bronze Horseman* (Pb \$22.95) and *Tatiana and Alexander* (Hb \$64.95), this is the third book in Simons's epic, heartbreaking saga of two lives blighted by war and the Communist regime of Stalin. Tatiana and Alexander have suffered the worst that the 20th century had to offer, yet miraculously survived to be reunited in a free country. They have a healthy young son, Anthony. They have proven to each other that their love is greater than the vast evil of the world. Now they must make a new life in America. But when Anthony comes of age, he learns the story surrounding his birth and discovers in himself the need to prove he is as courageous as his father. This is the time of the Vietnam War. As fate will have it, Anthony is captured. Just as Alexander was before him, Anthony is imprisoned in the Soviet Union and Tatiana and Alexander must find a way to get him home again.

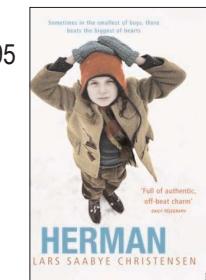


## Life and Fate

Vasily GROSSMAN, Robert CHANDLER (Trans) 896pp Pb \$29.95  
 This sweeping account of the siege of Stalingrad aims to give as panoramic a view of Soviet society during WWII as Tolstoy gave of Russian life in the epoch of the Napoleonic Wars. Completed in 1960, then confiscated by the KGB, it remained unpublished when the author died in 1964. It was smuggled into the West in 1980. Grossman offers a bitter, compelling vision of a totalitarian regime where the spirit of freedom that arose among those under fire was feared by the state at least as much as were the Nazis. His huge cast of characters includes an old Bolshevik now under arrest, a physicist pressured to make his scientific discoveries conform to 'socialist reality' and a Jewish doctor en route to the gas chambers in occupied Russia. Ironically, just as Stalingrad is liberated from the Germans, many of the characters find themselves bound in new slavery to the Soviet government. Yet Grossman suggests that the spirit of freedom can never be completely crushed.

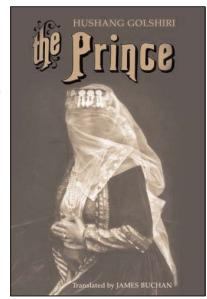
## Herman

Lars Saabye CHRISTENSEN 192pp Pb \$23.95  
 11-year-old Herman is not that different from other boys, except that he's going bald. Presented with this dilemma, Herman uses his fertile imagination and a comical viewpoint on life to navigate through the rough seas commonly known as growing up. In the process, he teaches everyone something about friendship, courage, acceptance and love.



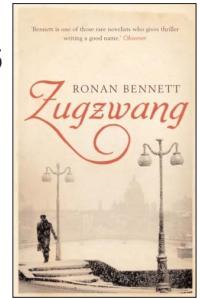
## The Prince

Houshang GOLSHIRI 160pp Pb \$23.95  
 In a crumbling house in a provincial town in 1920s Iran, the last survivor of a deposed dynasty is slowly dying from tuberculosis. The Prince's once magnificent domain has shrunk to his domestic household, where the glories of his ancestors haunt him. Drifting in and out of consciousness, the Prince is tormented by episodes relieved of his forbears' callous and whimsical rule. Long-dead relations glare out from photographs gathering dust in the Prince's room, or in his fevered imagination step down from their picture frames to threaten and berate him. Of these phantoms, the most terrifying is his wife Fakhronissa, who taunts him, as in life, with the vigour and potency of his grandfather and his great-grandfather. In his anguish, as his life unravels, the Prince consoles himself by seducing her servant, Fakhri.



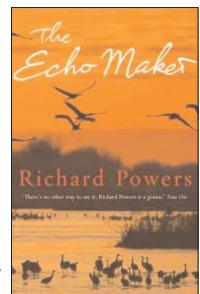
## Zugzwang

Ronan BENNETT Tp \$29.95  
 St Petersburg, 1914: imposing and shabby, monumental and squalid, and - under its surface of frosty glamour - seething with plots and secret allegiances. On a blustery April day, Gulko, a respected newspaper editor, is murdered in front of a shocked crowd. Five days later, Dr Spethmann, the famous psychoanalyst, receives a visit from the police. There has been another murder in the city and somehow he is implicated. He is mystified and deeply worried, as much for his young, spirited daughter as for himself. He is also preoccupied by two new patients: Anna Petrovna, the society beauty plagued with nightmares with whom he is steadily and inappropriately falling in love, and troubled genius Rozental, the brilliant but mentally fragile chess master. With the city rife with speculation and alarm, Spethmann broods over his own chessboard, its pieces frozen mid-battle, and contemplates the many forces - political, historical and sexual - that hold him in their grasp.



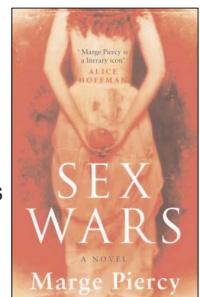
## The Echo Maker

Richard POWERS 464pp Tp \$32.95  
 On a winter's night on a remote road in Nebraska, 27-year-old Mark Schluter's truck turns over in a near-fatal accident. His older sister, Karin, his only close relative, returns reluctantly to their hometown to nurse him back from a traumatic head injury. But when he emerges from a protracted coma, he believes this woman - who looks, acts and sounds just like his sister - is really an identical impostor. Shattered by her brother's refusal to recognise her, Karin contacts the cognitive neurologist, Gerald Weber, famous for his case studies describing the infinitely bizarre worlds of brain disorder. Weber recognises Mark as a very unusual case of Capgras syndrome and is keen to investigate. But what he discovers in Mark begins to undermine even his own sense of self. Meanwhile, Mark, armed only with a note left by an anonymous witness, attempts to learn what happened on the night of his accident. The truth of that evening will change the lives of all three beyond recognition. Set against the spectacular spring migrations of American Sandhill cranes, this is a profound and riveting novel that explores how memory, instinct and relationships make us who we are.



## The Sex Wars

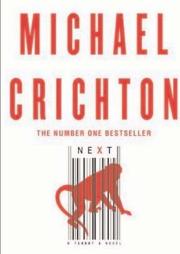
Marge PIERCY 420pp Pb \$23.95  
 Life is hard in post-Civil War New York, but change is in the air. Women are agitating for the vote and other rights. Immigrants are pouring into the city, bringing a new spirit in their wake. Among them is Freydeh, who lives in a tiny tenement flat with eight others and works as many jobs as she can handle in the hope of raising enough money to bring her beloved family over from Russia. And she has a dream: some day she will own a place and a business of her own. Then she receives a letter - many months after it was first posted - containing devastating news: her parents have died in a cholera epidemic. According to the letter, Freydeh's sister set off to America by herself and should have arrived in New York months ago. Freydeh puts everything aside and launches a search to find her. Interwoven with Freydeh's story is a vividly wrought account of the suffragette movement and the fight to secure women's rights.



**Next**

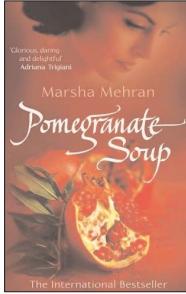
**Michael CRICHTON** 400pp Tp \$33.00

Have you ever wanted to design your own pet? Or change the stripes on the fish in your aquarium? Or sell your body fat, or donate it to charity? Or sell your eggs and sperm online for thousands of dollars? Did you know one-fifth of all your genes are owned by someone else? Come to think of it, could you and your family be pursued cross-country just because you happen to have certain genes in your body? Welcome to our genetic world. Fast, furious and out of control. This is not the world of the future - it's the world right now. Most of the events in this book have already happened. And the rest are just around the corner...

**Pomegranate Soup**

**Marsha MEHRAN** 400pp Pb \$23.00

For the inhabitants of the damp little Irish town of Ballinacraugh, the repertoire of gastronomic delights has never extended further than the limp meals of the local inn's carvery. But things are about to change when the beautiful Aminpour sisters - Marjan, Bahar and Layla - arrive, determined to share the magic of their kitchen with the friendly locals. Opening Babylon Cafe, right in the heart of town, they begin serving up traditional Persian dishes. Soon the townsfolk are lured to the new premises by the tantalising aroma of fresh herb kuku, lamb abgush and elephant ear fritters, washed down with gallons of jasmine tea from the old samovar. Not everyone welcomes the three women with open arms, though. The way to a man's heart is through his stomach, as they say, and the women of Ballinacraugh want their men back.

**Against the Day**

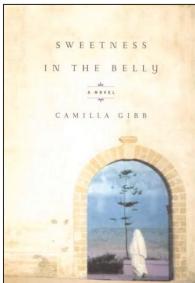
**Thomas PYNCHON** 1,104pp Hb \$59.95

"Nearly a decade after *Mason & Dixon* (Pb \$30.95), Pynchon delivers a novel that matches his most influential work, *Gravity's Rainbow* (Pb \$27.95), in complexity, humour and insight, and surpasses it in emotional valence. Approaching 70 and as famous for his avoidance of the public eye as for his Niagars of prose, Pynchon remains profoundly fascinated by light, time and technology. The improbable action begins onboard a hydrogen sky ship, the Inconvenience, manned by the Chums of Chance, a fabled do-gooder aeronautics club on its way to Chicago for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. Aside from some Jules Verne-like voyages beneath the earth's surface, the bickering Chums provide an aerial view of the carnivalesque proceedings as this many-voiced saga modulates in tone from cliff-hanger jocularity to metaphysical speculation, lyricism and devilish satire. As Pynchon whirls his way through such milestones as the invention of dynamite, the harnessing of electricity, the evolution of photography and movies, the development of diabolical weapons and the bloody turmoil in the Balkans and the Ottoman Empire leading up to WWI, his motley characters circle the globe on quests for enlightenment, profit, revenge, romance and sanctuary. Cartoonish figures vamp and menace, but Pynchon has also created genuinely dimensional and affecting characters, including marvellously tough and witty women." - Booklist

**Sweetness in the Belly**

**Camilla GIBB** 352pp Pb \$23.95

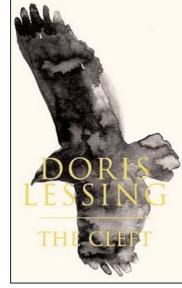
When Lilly is eight years old, her pot-smoking hippie British parents leave her at a Sufi shrine in Morocco and inform her they will be back to collect her in three days. Three weeks later, she learns they've been murdered. Lilly fills that haunted hollow in her life with intense study and memorisation of the Qur'an, under the patient care of the Sufi saint's disciple to whom she has been entrusted. Years later, her journey from Morocco to Harar, Ethiopia, is half-pilgrimage, half-flight. In Harar, even her very traditional Muslim head scarves cannot hide her white skin in her new and strange surroundings; the word "farenji", or foreigner, is hissed at her wherever she turns. She eventually builds a life for herself teaching children the Qur'an, and she finds herself falling in love with an idealistic young doctor. But the two are wrenched apart when Lilly is again forced to flee, for her safety and his, this time to London. Despite her British roots, Lilly discovers she is as much an outsider in London as a Muslim, as she was in Harar as a white foreigner. Gibb's haunting narrative takes us on a journey between these two distinct worlds: the ancient walled city of Harar and the racially charged atmosphere of 1980s London.

**The Cleft**

**Doris LESSING**

384pp Pb \$28.00

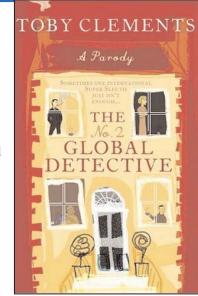
An old Roman senator, contemplative at his late stage of life, embarks on what will likely be his last endeavour - the retelling of the story of human creation. He recounts the history of the Clefts, an ancient community of women living in an Edenic, coastal wilderness, confined within the valley of an overshadowing mountain. The Clefts have no need nor knowledge of men - childbirth is controlled, like the tides that lap around their feet, through the cycles of the moon, and their children are always female. But with the unheralded birth of a strange, new child - a boy - the harmony of their community is suddenly thrown into jeopardy. At first, in their ignorance, the Clefts are awestruck by this seemingly malformed child, but as more and more of these threateningly unfamiliar males appear, nicknamed 'Squirts', they are rejected - exposed on the nearby mountainside and sacrificed to the patrolling eagles overhead, the sentinels of their female haven. Unbeknownst to the Clefts, however, these baby males survive, aided by the very eagles sent to kill them. They thrive on their own on the other side of the mountain. Inevitably, this disquieting fact is uncovered and the Clefts must realign themselves to the prospect of a now shared world, and the possible vengeance of the wronged males.

**Humour****The Number Two Global Detective**

**Toby CLEMENTS**

288pp Pb \$22.95

The quiet of the evening is shattered by the discovery of a body in the Library. The police are baffled. Tom Hurst, a junior lecturer at the Cuff College of Transgression and Pathology, Oxford, breaking every rule of the whodunit genre, follows a trail of arcane clues that leads him to Botswana and 'Mma Delicious Ontoast'. His investigations then take him to Sweden and Burt Colander; to Edinburgh, where he is grudgingly helped by DI John 'Just-Now' Rhombus; and to Richmond, Virginia, where he meets the brilliant, attractive-in-a-powerful-way, midnight-blue-pant-suited forensic pathologist Dr Su Carpaccio. Sometimes one super-sleuth just isn't enough.

**Mr Jones' Rules for the Modern Man**

**Dylan JONES**

400pp Hb \$35.00

It is tough being a man in the 21st century. First there are the big dilemmas, like how to get a pay rise and how to suck up to your boss. Then there are the minor irritations: how do you beat jet-lag and how do you stop your trousers sliding off their hangers? And finally there are all those things you ought to know, but don't: how to jump-start a car, how to buy lingerie, how to stop smoking, how to tie a Windsor knot, how to behave at a lap-dancing club - the list is endless. Fear not. Jones, the highly respected editor of GQ magazine, draws on his wealth of experience to give the final answer to these questions and more.

**Cautionary Tales for Grownups**

**Chris ADDISON**

128pp Hb \$29.95

These are dark days. The world is seething with imbeciles and poltroons. Why? Because they've never been taught any better. These poems, in the style of Hilaire Belloc, illustrate the dangers of modern behaviour. The tales include: The Gloucestershire Horse Club, Who Posed Naked for a Charity Calendar; Phillip, Who Talked Only in Management Speak and Myfanwy, Who Answered an Email from a Nigerian Bank Manager. Sparklingly wicked and cunningly illustrated, this is a hilarious Struwwelpeter for the 21st century.

**They Call Me Naughty Lola****The London Review of Books Personal Ads****A Reader**

**David ROSE (Editor)**

192pp Hb \$22.95

"Disaffiliated flaneur, jacked-up on Viagra and on the lookout for a contortionist trumpeter" ran the first personal ad submitted to the *London Review of Books*. The quality has remained the same ever since and it is now the world's funniest - and most erudite - lonely hearts column.

Expectations of finding a suitable mate remain low, but it has produced a handful of marriages, many friendships and at least one divorce. Here the fruitiest of the ads are brought together for the first time.

**Bush Yoga**

**Daniel COTA**

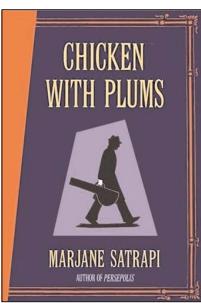
96pp Hb \$19.95

A hilarious look at how the leader of the Free World handles crushing Presidential pressure with supreme yogic mastery.

# Biography

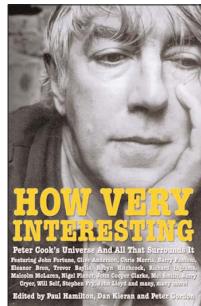
## Chicken with Plums

**Marjane SATRAPI** 96pp Hb \$39.95  
In her acclaimed graphic novels, *Persepolis* (Pb \$27.00) and *Embroideries* (Hb \$39.95), Satrapi rendered the events of her life and times in a uniquely captivating and powerful voice and vision. Now she turns that same keen eye and ear to the heartrending story of her great-uncle, a celebrated Iranian musician who gave up his life for music and love. In Tehran in 1958, Nasser Ali Khan, one of Iran's most revered tar players, discovers that his beloved instrument is irreparably damaged. Though he tries, he cannot find one to replace it, one whose sound speaks to him with the same power and passion with which his music speaks to others. In despair, he takes to his bed, renouncing the world and all its pleasures, closing the door on the demands and love of his wife and four children. Over the course of the week that follows, his family and close friends attempt to change his mind, but Nasser Ali slips further and further into his own reveries. As the pieces of his story slowly fall into place, we begin to understand the profundity of his decision to give up life.



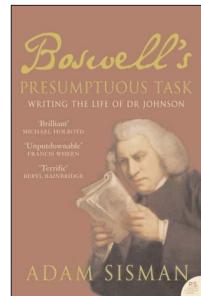
## How Very Interesting Peter Cook's Universe and All That Surrounds It

**Paul HAMILTON, Peter GORDON, Dan KIERAN** (Editors) 300pp Pb \$24.95  
Who is The Zsa Zsa Man? What lurks Behind the Fridge? What was The Glidd of Glood's true nature? Why can't we go to Heaven when we die? The Peter Cook Appreciation Society has the answers. This book contains interviews with those who worked with Cook during his long and varied career and who saw him as an inspiration: his colleagues, collaborators, co-writers, producers, directors, fans and friends.



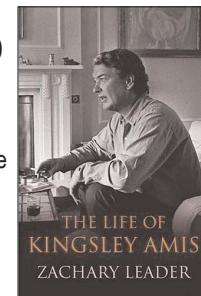
## Boswell's Presumptuous Task Writing the Life of Dr Johnson

**Adam SISMAN** 432pp Pb \$28.00  
James Boswell's *The Life of Samuel Johnson* (Pb \$11.95) is acknowledged as one of the greatest and most entertaining books in the English language - a model of biographical endeavour and achievement, an epic attempt to capture the spirit of a man who embodied the spirit of an age. Yet Boswell himself has generally been considered as little more than an idiot, condemned by posterity as a lecher and a drunk, a man who spent his short life in various states of dissipation on a fruitless search for amusement and diversion. But Sisman's sparkling account of the writing of Boswell's biographical masterpiece tells another story - of how Boswell succeeded in his presumptuous task of capturing on the page the character of his garrulous, curmudgeonly, beloved friend, Samuel Johnson.



## The Life of Kingsley Amis

**Zachary LEADER** 1,008 pp Hb \$75.00  
Leader argues that Kingsley Amis was not only the finest comic novelist of his generation, but a dominant figure in post-war British writing, as a novelist, poet, critic and polemicist. Drawing on interviews with a range of Amis's friends, relatives, fellow writers, students and colleagues, many of them never before consulted, and hundreds of previously unpublished letters, Leader gives a full picture of Amis's childhood, school days, life as a teacher, critic, political and cultural commentator, professional author, husband, father and lover, exploring his fears and phobias and the role that drink played in his life.



## Bad Ground

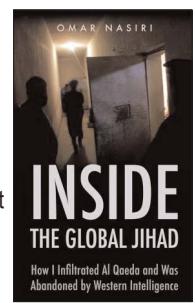
### Inside the Beaconsfield Mine Rescue

**Tony WRIGHT** 336pp Tp \$34.95  
This is the exclusive, authorised story of the 14-day entombment and rescue of Beaconsfield miners Brant Webb and Todd Russell and the fascinating aftermath. The rock fall that occurred one kilometre underground on Anzac Day 2006 killed their co-worker, Larry Knight, and left their shift manager in no doubt they were also dead. This reads like a psychological thriller as it follows the many intriguing and moving developments surrounding its central characters and their families, above ground and deep down below.

## Inside the Global Jihad

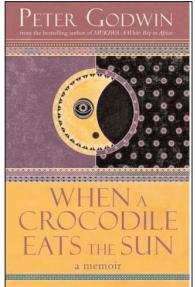
### How I Infiltrated Al Qaeda and was Abandoned by Western Intelligence

**Omar NASIRI** 320pp Tp \$32.95  
Between 1994 and 2000, Omar Nasiri worked as a secret agent for Europe's top foreign intelligence services, including France's DGSE (Direction Générale de la Sécurité Extérieure) and Britain's MI5 and MI6. From the netherworld of Islamist cells in Belgium, to the training camps of Afghanistan, to the radical mosques of London, he risked his life to defeat the emerging global network that the West would come to know as Al Qaeda. Now, for the first time, Nasiri shares the story of his life, balanced precariously between the world of Islamic jihadists and the spies who pursue them. As an Arab and a Muslim, he was able to infiltrate the rigidly controlled Afghan training camps, where he encountered men who would later be known as the most-wanted terrorists on earth: Ibn al-Sheikh al-Libi, Abu Zubayda and Abu Khabab al-Masri. Sent back to Europe with instructions to form a sleeper cell, Nasiri became a conduit for messages going back and forth between Al Qaeda's top recruiter in Pakistan and London's radical cleric, Abu Qatada. In this gripping and provocative insider's account of Islamist terror networks and the intelligence services that spy on them, Nasiri offers a new perspective on the ongoing battle against Al Qaeda.



## When a Crocodile Eats the Sun

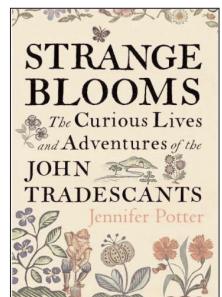
**Peter GODWIN** 416pp Tp \$32.95  
Godwin, an award-winning Manhattan-based writer, is on assignment in Zululand when he is summoned by his mother to Zimbabwe, his birthplace. His father is seriously ill; she fears he is dying. Godwin finds his country, once a post-colonial success story, descending into a vortex of violence and racial hatred incited by an embattled dictator. "When a crocodile eats the sun" is how some remote tribes explain the solar eclipse that coincides with Zimbabwe's torment. A celestial crocodile, they say, briefly consumes the life-giving star to demonstrate his displeasure with man below. In a land in which the forces of light are apparently giving way to those of the dark, it seems the very worst of omens. Godwin combines vivid reportage, moving personal stories and traces his family's quest spanning three continents and half a century to belong in hostile lands.



## Strange Blooms

### The Curious Lives and Adventures of the John Tradescants

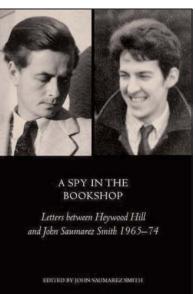
**Jennifer POTTER** 400pp Hb \$55.00  
In 17th century Britain, a new breed of 'curious' gardeners was pushing at the frontiers of knowledge and new plants were stealing into Europe from East and West. The man responsible for introducing many of the plants to Britain at that time was John Tradescant, whose passion for collecting sent him as far as Russian Archangel, the pirate strongholds of North Africa and the battlefields of France. Tradescant's only son, John, was his apprentice. Potter tells the Tradescants' story - as gardeners, collectors and above all exemplars of an age that began in wonder and ended with the dawning of science.



## A Spy in the Bookshop

### Letters Between Heywood Hill and John Saumarez Smith

**JOHN SAUMAREZ SMITH** 176pp Hb \$35.00  
Whilst compiling and editing *The Bookshop at 10 Curzon Street* (Hb \$35.00), described as "a little gem" by the *Sunday Times*, the author discovered that one side of that "elegant and entertaining" (*Spectator*) and "thought provoking and... laugh out loud" (*Country Life*) correspondence, had been to some degree plagiarised from letters that he himself had sent to Heywood Hill, former owner of the shop. His own account of day to day life in one of London's best loved and most stylish bookshops had been used to flesh out Hill's glittering correspondence with Nancy Mitford who referred to him as "the spy in the bookshop". So here is the real thing. This is a lively, alarming and candid account of life behind the counter in a fashionable west end bookshop, where all was most definitely not what it seemed, and where deep passions and often irrational animosities flourished and occasionally broke the surface, to the alarm of customers, staff and owners alike.



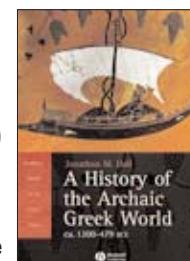
## A History of the Archaic Greek World

C 1200-479 BC

Jonathan M HALL

328pp Pb \$49.50

By revisiting the evidence from the period with a critical and analytical eye, Hall provides the opportunity to investigate at first hand this crucial formative period of Greek history. In doing so, he casts new light on traditional themes, such as the rise of the city-state, citizen militias and the origins of egalitarianism.



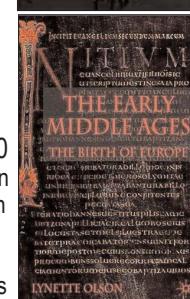
## The Early Middle Ages

### The Birth of Europe

Lynette OLSON

304pp Pb \$57.00

Olson offers an exploration of the fascinating original formation of Europe from the fall of Rome to the First Crusade. Written in an easy-to-follow, century-by-century format and richly illustrated, with due attention given to the female population and the secular side of life, this book will engage both students and scholars.



## Boudica Britannia

Miranda ALDHOUSE-GREEN

320pp Hb \$49.95

When Roman troops threatened to seize the wealth of the Iceni people, their queen, Boudica, retaliated by inciting a major uprising, allying her tribe with the neighbouring Trinovantes. The ensuing clash is one of the most important, dramatic events in the history of Britain, standing testament to what can happen when an insensitive colonial power meets determined resistance from a subjugated people head-on. Due Jan



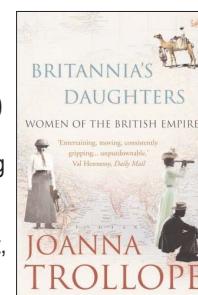
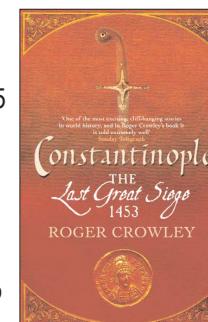
## Constantinople

### The Last Great Siege 1453

Roger CROWLEY

320pp Pb \$26.95

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 ten to one, confronted the might of the Ottoman army in a bitter contest fought on land, sea and underground. It was 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. Due Jan



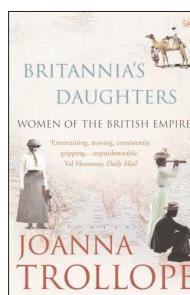
## Britannia's Daughters

### Women of the British Empire

Joanna TROLLOPE

272pp Tp \$30.00

Bestselling novelist Trollope examines the contribution of women in building and sustaining the British Empire. Drawing on a vast range of sources, including diaries and letters home, she provides a panoramic picture of the countless women who departed Britain for India, Australia, the Far East, Canada and Africa, often in search of opportunities not available at home. Here are penniless pioneers and governors' wives, missionaries and prostitutes, explorers and army nurses. They people this book as they peopled the Empire, with astonishing courage and endurance, their remarkable personal stories vividly and enthrallingly recaptured. Due Jan

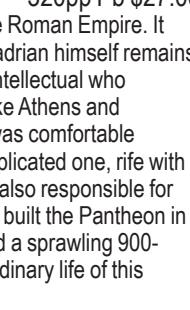


## Hadrian's Empire

Danny DANZIGER & Nicholas PURCELL

320pp Pb \$27.00

Hadrian's Wall is one of the world's best known legacies of the Roman Empire. It has stood for 2,000 years as a monument to its creator, yet Hadrian himself remains an enigmatic figure. A Spaniard, he was a restless, inquiring intellectual who travelled constantly and spent much time in cultural centres like Athens and Alexandria. Although not warlike, he was a good soldier and was comfortable mingling among all ranks. And yet his personal life was a complicated one, rife with scandal and conflicted sexuality. This complex character was also responsible for some of the world's most enduring architectural treasures. He built the Pantheon in Rome, the largest dome built using pre-industrial methods and a sprawling 900-room villa at Tivoli. This book reveals the details of the extraordinary life of this mysterious man and the age in which he lived and ruled.

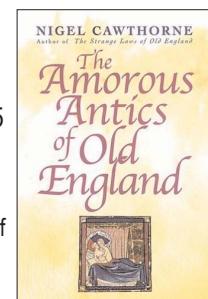


## The Amorous Antics of Old England

Nigel CAWTHORNE

256pp Hb \$32.95

The history of sex in Britain has been largely glossed over by 'proper' historians. Cawthorne has burrowed deep into the archives to reveal exactly what Britons got up to in bed (and out of it). He examines the ancient arts of seduction, adultery, brothels, 'the English vice', contraception, defloration and many more, from the torrid Tudors to the supposedly strait-laced Victorians.



## A Glance into Ottoman Bosnia

Matija MAZURANIC

130pp Pb \$42.00

At the age of 22, Mazuranic crossed the River Sava into Ottoman Bosnia. It was 1839, the dawn of the Ottoman reform period known as the Tanzimat. In this fascinating and sympathetic eyewitness account, Mazuranic records his encounters with Ottoman Bosnian society at every level, from peasants in the field mistaking him for a demon to townspeople in taverns and shops, and an audience at the pasha's court. This unique record provides insight into the local customs, modes of speech and dress, politics and social and economic conditions of Ottoman Bosnia.



## Historians

Daniel SMOWMAN

256pp Hb \$59.95

Over the past seven years, the historian and broadcaster Snowman has interviewed for History Today magazine some of the finest historians alive, including Simon Schama, David Starkey, Ian Kershaw, Antonia Fraser and David Cannadine. This is an anthology of the resulting critical essays on these writers and their work.

Including contributions from many of the historians, this book provides a revealing insight into how we currently regard the ever-shifting past, filtered through a group of colourful and sometimes controversial characters. Due Jan

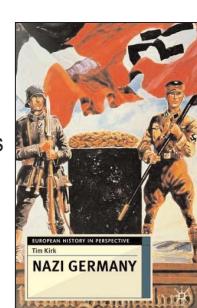


## Nazi Germany

Tim KIRK

304pp Pb \$54.00

This succinct general study of the origins and development of the Nazi dictatorship examines its impact on Germany and Europe. Kirk focuses on the relationship between Nazism and German society, and covers a number of important and controversial themes, including the social base of Nazism, the role of Hitler, the impact of Nazism on the lives of ordinary Germans and the relationship between Nazi racial and eugenic policies and the Holocaust.



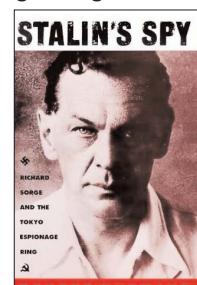
## Stalin's Spy

### Richard Sorge and the Tokyo Espionage Ring

Robert WHYMANT

288pp Pb \$45.00

Richard Sorge, born to a Russian mother and a German father, ran a network of Japanese and Europeans right under the noses of Japan's dreaded secret police. From 1933 until he was caught in late 1941, he transmitted priceless secrets to Red Army intelligence. Sorge's espionage group - perhaps the most successful operating in this critical period - kept the Russians informed about Japanese and German intentions, and also helped influence decisions made by these governments. Sorge's biggest coup was to inform Stalin of the planned German attack on Russia in 1941, weeks before it occurred, providing details of troop deployments, movement of armaments and the actual date of the attack. Abandoned to his fate by Stalin, Sorge became the first European sentenced to death by a Japanese court. After a prolonged ordeal, he was executed in Sugamo prison in 1944.



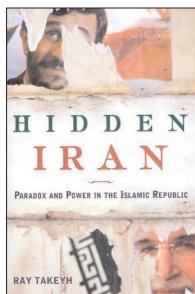
# History

## Hidden Iran

### Paradox and Power in the Islamic Republic

**Ray TEKEYH** 272pp Hb \$45.00

For more than a quarter of a century, few countries have been as resistant to American influence as Iran. The US and Iran have long eyed each other with open suspicion, a climate that has fostered the shrinking circles of mistrust and jumping to conclusions that may still result in open warfare. What gets lost along the way could prove crucial to averting future conflict: with a new, hard-line Iranian president making incendiary pronouncements and pressing for nuclear developments, the consequences of not understanding Iran have never been higher. Takeyh, a leading expert on Iranian politics and history, demystifies the regime and shows how the fault lines of Iran's domestic politics serve to explain its behaviour. Through a clearer understanding of the competing claims of Muslim theology, Republican pragmatism and factional competition, he offers a new paradigm for managing Western relations with a rising and largely unknown power.



## We Were One

### Shoulder to Shoulder with the Marines Who Took Fallujah

**Patrick O'DONNELL**

280pp Hb \$45.00

This is a gripping, first-hand account of the battle at Fallujah and the Marines who lived and died fighting for control. O'Donnell was the first 'embedded' author to go into combat in Iraq with his unit, fighting side-by-side with the men of the 1st Platoon. They were the first unit into Fallujah - considered the most important battle in the war in Iraq - where civilians were used as human shields, suicide bombers approached from any street corner and insurgents, high on injected adrenaline, fought to the death. The Marines of the 1st (with O'Donnell alongside them) saw the worst of it; by the end of the battle, only 14 of the original 49 were left standing. O'Donnell captures not only the sights, sounds and smells of the battles, but the human drama of the young men from a close-knit platoon fighting and dying side-by-side.

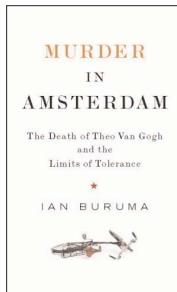
## Murder in Amsterdam

### The Death of Theo Van Gogh and the Limits of Tolerance

**Ian BURUMA**

256pp Pb \$24.95

On a cold November day in Amsterdam, an angry young Moslem man, Mohammed Bouyeri, shot and killed the celebrated and controversial Dutch filmmaker, Theo van Gogh, for making (with the vocally anti-Islamic, Somali-born Dutch politician, Ayaan Hersi Ali) a movie that 'blasphemed' Islam. After Bouyeri shot van Gogh, he calmly stood over the body and cut his throat with a curved machete, as if performing a ritual sacrifice. The murder horrified quiet, complacent, prosperous Holland, a country that prides itself on being a bastion of tolerance, and sent shockwaves across Europe and around the world. Shortly afterwards, Buruma returned to his native country to try to make sense of it all and to see what larger meaning should and shouldn't be drawn from this story. In Buruma's hands, this is the exemplary tale of our age, the story of what happens when political Islam collides with the secular West and tolerance finds its limits. Due Jan

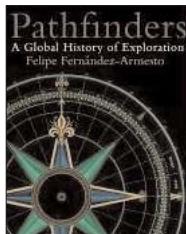


## Pathfinders

### A Global History of Exploration

**Felipe FERNANDEZ-ARDESTO** 448pp Hb \$79.95

Explorers forged the infrastructure of global history, first by finding the routes of migration that sundered human cultures, then - after millennia of divergence - by finding the routes that linked them up again. Fernandez-Armesto reveals the real flesh-and-blood story of how the route-finders did it: who they were, where they came from, where they went, how they coped with the unknown, how they developed the techniques and technologies they needed, how they paid for it, how they suffered for it and - perhaps most curious of all - why they bothered.



## The Battle for the Rhine 1944

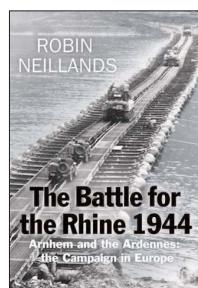
### Arnhem and the Ardennes

### The Campaign in Europe

**Robin NEILLANDS**

352pp Pb \$24.95

Neillands' new history of the **Battle of Normandy** (Hb \$59.95) was hailed by the Sunday Times as one of the best military history books of the year. This continues the story from the breakout from Normandy to the arrival of the Allied armies on the Rhine at the beginning of 1945. The story is dominated by two great battles: the Allied airborne offensive into Holland that ended in bitter failure at Arnhem, and Hitler's last great offensive in the Ardennes that December, the Battle of the Bulge. Due Jan

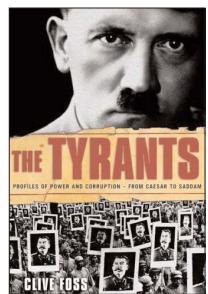


## The Tyrants

### Profiles of Power and Corruption from Caesar to Saddam

**Clive FOSS** 208pp Pb \$34.95

From Herod to Papa Doc Duvalier, from Nero to Saddam Hussein, here are 50 chilling portraits of the despots whose iron-fisted rule left an indelible mark on the history of the world. Presenting a compelling chronology of the moments in history when the principles of government and law were corrupted by the vanity of the ambitious and unscrupulous, Foss recounts the story of each dictator individually. From irresistible rise to inevitable fall, he describes how these men and women - as often outcasts or outsiders as kings or queens - were able to manipulate the political climate of their states to seize absolute power. Foss examines the destruction and suffering they invariably left in their wake.

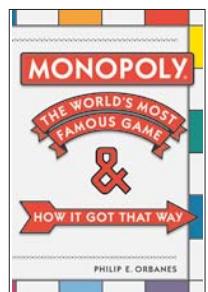


## Monopoly

### The World's Most Famous Game and How it Got That Way

**Philip E ORBANES** 280pp Hb \$49.95

The refrains "Go directly to jail" and "Do not pass Go" are firmly embedded in cultures throughout the world thanks to the huge popularity of a game called Monopoly. Over 200 million copies have been sold since Parker Brothers first popularised the game in 1935. As a cultural icon, it continues to hold a perpetual fascination for players. Orbanes charts the history of the game which, although undoubtedly global in its appeal, is distinctly American in origin. It is a story full of secrets, twists, turns, tragedies and triumphs. In its early days, Monopoly played a critical role in building and preserving morale during the Depression and WWII. In the decades of the post-war boom, it became a ubiquitous fixture in many European and American homes, but in Communist countries it was banned as a symbol of American capitalism. As the world's love affair with Monopoly goes from strength to strength, this is the definitive book about its world and those who love to play in it.



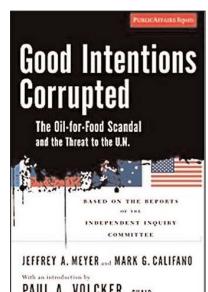
## Good Intentions Corrupted

### The Oil-for-Food Scandal and the Threat to the UN

**Paul VOLKER, Jeffrey MEYER & Mark CALIFANO**

275pp Pb \$29.95

By March 2003, seven years after it had begun to alleviate the threat of starvation in Iraq, the Oil-for-Food programme allowed Saddam Hussein to reap billions of dollars from kickbacks and smuggling. More than 2,000 companies made illegal payments to Saddam's regime and he bestowed oil allocations on scores of politicians and influential figures worldwide. The UN Security Council knew about the abuses of the programme, but largely looked the other way. Meanwhile, corruption reached into the upper echelon of the UN administration and the fallout from the scandal would lead to multiple criminal indictments, the flight from US jurisdiction of the corrupt UN administrator of the programme, the arrest of France's former ambassador, the resignation of India's foreign minister and a widening scandal in Australia. The Secretary-General himself was tainted by his son's scurrilous efforts to exploit his father's name for personal gain. The UN asked an Independent Inquiry Committee - chaired by former US Federal Reserve Board Chairman Paul Volcker - to conduct an unprecedented investigation of the inner workings of the UN. The Committee's investigation included more than 1,000 witnesses and 12 million documents (including diplomatic documents of the type never before exposed to the light of an international investigative inquiry). Meyer, former Senior Counsel to the Committee and chief editor of the reports, and Califano, former Chief Legal Counsel to the Committee, who led major aspects of the Committee's investigation, have provided a narrative of the most compelling events. And as Volcker's introduction makes clear, the threat to the UN is real, if major reform does not follow.

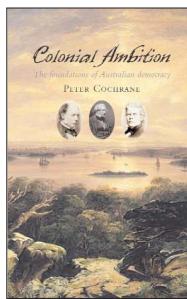


## Colonial Ambition

Peter COCHRANE

416pp Pb \$39.95

Cochrane tells the story of the politicians and would-be politicians of Sydney who were driven by a determination to lift themselves and their new colony to a higher level. They wanted parliamentary liberty, though they could not agree on what that meant. That contest over meaning, centred in Sydney, was unremitting. The fight for responsible government and democracy is a dialogue between the local and the global, the periphery and the centre (Sydney and London), the city and the bush; between economy and polity, the politics of legislature and the street, and between the public and the private lives of the key players: W C Wentworth, Sir George Gipps, Robert Lowe, Lord Howick (Earl Grey), Henry Parkes, Charles Cowper and Lord John Russell. Written with great brio and verve, and paced like a thriller, Cochrane has brought to life the various players in a way which is very rare in the writing of Australian history.



## The Chameleon Crown

### The Queen and Her Australian Governors

Anne TWOMEY

256pp Hb \$49.95

Using previously secret government documents, this book rewrites the history of Australia's relationship with the United Kingdom and the Crown. It makes clear that the Australian states remained colonial dependencies of the British Crown until 1986, when the Australia Act was passed. It was the Queen of the United Kingdom, not the Queen of Australia, who reigned over them. For many decades, historians, lawyers and politicians believed that the British Government's role in advising the Queen on State matters was simply a formality and that the British merely provided the "channel of communication" for State advice. This book reveals for the first time the true extent of the independent role played by the British Government in State affairs, as well as the significant role of the Queen. Twomey takes the reader behind the scenes into the confidential negotiations between the States, the Commonwealth, the British Government and Buckingham Palace on the termination of the colonial links between the States and the United Kingdom. This was a battle of high politics, played by the likes of Whitlam, Murphy, Bjelke-Petersen, Wran, Fraser and Hawke, in which the sovereignty of the States was at stake. It is essential reading for anyone interested in Australian politics, history and the monarchy.

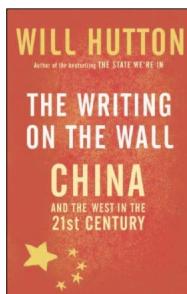
## The Writing on the Wall

### China and the West in the 21st Century

Will HUTTON

450pp Tp \$35.00

China constitutes a fifth of the world's population. Over the last 20 years, its economy has doubled to make it the fifth largest economy in the world. If this pace is repeated over the next 20 years, it will become second only to the US. The speed of its development is stunning, a combination of cheap labour and commitment to science and technology that has never been matched by a developing country. The Pearl River Delta, Shanghai and Beijing have become city-regions whose growth and embrace of modernity strike the visitor with awesome force. This is a continent on the move, recovering the world position and wealth it once had. The re-emergence of China as a superpower constitutes the biggest challenge the world has had for more than a century. Never before in modern times has the financial, trade, economic and diplomatic world pecking order been so profoundly reconstituted with the challenger country itself in the grip of incredible ideological and political change. This transition, both internally in China and externally in the world beyond, is beset by hazard and risk. The world's peace and prosperity depends on it being executed successfully.



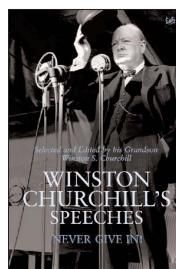
## Winston Churchill's Speeches

### Never Give In!

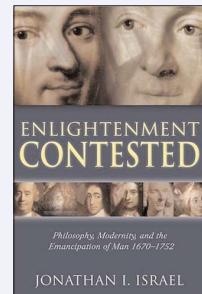
Winston S CHURCHILL

512pp Pb \$30.00

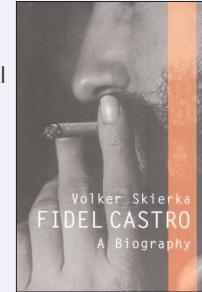
Winston Churchill "mobilised the English language and sent it into battle". When Britain stood alone, all but defenceless, with his resolute and pugnacious tone and puckish sense of humour, he inspired his countrymen to resist, fight and conquer. The definitive collection of Churchill's speeches fills eight volumes. Here in a single volume, his grandson has put together a personal selection of his favourites, choosing from all of Churchill's speeches. It includes Churchill's best-known speeches, plus some that have never been published in popular form.



Jonathan Israel, author of **The Dutch Republic: Its Rise, Greatness and Fall** (Pb \$87.50) has produced a sequel to his wonderful **Radical Enlightenment: Philosophy and the Making of Modernity 1650-1750** (Pb \$69.95). It's called **Enlightenment Contested: Philosophy, Modernity and the Emancipation of Man 1670-1752** (1,024pp Hb \$82.95) and in it he offers a groundbreaking new perspective on the nature and development of the most important currents in modern thought. He traces many of the core principles of Western modernity to their roots in the social, political and philosophical ferment of this period: the primacy of reason, democracy, racial equality, feminism, religious toleration, sexual emancipation and freedom of expression.



**Fidel Castro: A Biography** (464pp Pb \$32.95) by Volker Skierka provides an account of the economic, social and political history of Cuba since Castro's childhood. It draws on a number of little-known sources, including material from archives of the former German Democratic Republic, which were until recently inaccessible. The author succeeds in creating an exciting, painstakingly researched account of the contradictions in the life and work of Castro.



If you enjoyed **AK47: The Weapon that Changed the Face of War** (175pp Pb \$35.95), you might like to read Mikhail Kalashnikov's autobiography **The Gun that Changed the World** (175pp Pb \$35.95). He tells the story of his life for the first time - his deportation to Siberia with his family while still a child, his time as a soldier in a tank regiment, his invention of the world's most famous weapon and his turbulent life under Stalin, Khrushchev, Brezhnev, Gorbachev and Yeltsin.

Focusing on one of the last untold chapters in the history of human flight, **Dictatorship of the Air** (328pp Hb \$75.00) by Scott Palmer is the first book to explain the true story behind 20th-century Russia's quest for aviation prominence. Based on nearly a decade of scholarly research, but written with general readers in mind, this is the only account to answer the question: What is 'Russian' about Russian aviation?

**Rome's Vestal Virgins** (158pp Pb \$65.00) by Robin Wildfang examines one of the most important state cults in ancient Rome and the role of the virgin priestesses in ancient Roman religion and society. It analyses the rituals these priestesses enacted, both the public rituals performed in connection with official state rites and festivals, and the private rites associated only with the order itself.



**Islamic Thought: An Introduction** (204pp Pb \$48.00) by Abdullah Saeed is a fresh and contemporary introduction to the philosophies and doctrines of Islam. It focuses on Muslim thought, as well as the development, production and transmission of religious knowledge and the trends, schools and movements that have contributed to the production of this knowledge.

**Film in Australia: An Introduction** (219pp Pb \$54.95) by Albert Moran and Errol Vieth is a groundbreaking book that systematically addresses the wide-ranging output of Australian feature films. Adopting a genre approach, it gives a different take on Australian films made since 1970, bypassing the standard run of historical texts and actor-driven or character-driven studies of Australian film.

Piero Melogran's **Mozart: A Biography** (300pp Hb \$59.95) offers a wholly readable account of Mozart's remarkable life and times. This masterful biography proceeds from the young Mozart's earliest years as a *Wunderkind* - the child prodigy who travelled with his family to perform concerts throughout Europe - to his formative years in Vienna, where he fully absorbed the artistic and intellectual spirit of the Enlightenment, to his deathbed, his unfinished Requiem and the mystery that still surrounds his burial.

**Philosophy of Psychology: Contemporary Readings** (673pp Pb \$64.00) edited by José Luis Bermúdez is a comprehensive anthology that includes classic and contemporary readings from leading philosophers. Addressing most major topics within philosophy of psychology, the editor has carefully selected articles under the headings: pictures of the mind, commonsense psychology, representation and cognitive architecture.

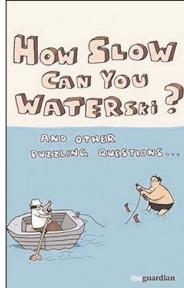
In **Future Jihad** (310pp Pb \$29.95), Walid Phares draws upon decades of careful study to correct many of the fundamental misunderstandings about the aims of al Qaeda, Hezbollah and other terrorist organisations. He also illuminates the current state of jihad around the world, demonstrating conclusively that the movement is global and growing, and demands a concerted international response.

Dave

## How Slow Can You Waterski? And Other Puzzling Questions

THE GUARDIAN 256pp Pb \$24.95

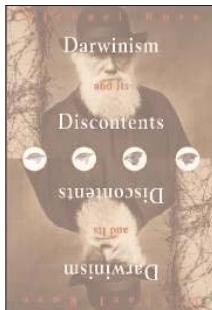
When the powers that be reduced the speed limit on Lake Windermere to 10 knots, waterskiers complained that their sport was now completely scuppered. So just how slow can you waterski before you start to sink beneath the waves? And while we're about it, how long can you survive in a freezer? And what are the chances of being struck by lightning in bed? And why is it so easy to read words even when the letters are muddled up? *The Guardian's* popular *This Week* column has been looking into the science behind the news for three years and this is a selection of the most imaginative questions and most surprising answers.



## Darwinism and its Discontents

Michael RUSE 326pp Hb \$49.95

Presenting an ardent defence of Darwin's theory of evolution, this book offers a clear and comprehensive exposition of his thinking. Ruse brings the story up-to-date, examining the origins of life, the fossil record and the mechanism of natural selection. Rival theories are explored, from punctuated equilibrium to human evolution (including the recently found 'hobbits', *Homo floresiensis*). The philosophical and religious implications of Darwinism are explored, including a discussion of Creationism and its modern-day offshoot, Intelligent Design Theory. Ruse draws upon the most recent discoveries, writing with a minimum of jargon in order to appeal to all readers, from professional biologists to those concerned that Darwinism is a naturalistic religion that is forced on school children despite their own Christian convictions. Openly revealing his own beliefs, Ruse presents readers with all the information and critical tools they need to make an informed decision on evolutionary theory.



## The Discovery of the Hobbit

Mike MORWOOD & Penny Van OOSTERZEE Tp \$34.95

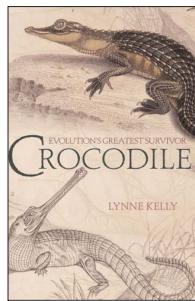
In October 2004, the prestigious science publication *Nature* published the discovery of a one-metre-tall hominid skeleton. The world's media went wild. Hailed as one of the most important scientific discoveries for years, the Hobbit, as the adult female came to be known, entered the history books. But until now, none of the members of the original archaeological team have told their story in book form. Written by the orchestrators of the dig, this book describes in vivid detail what the project was aiming to achieve, what it was like to stumble across such a find, what it means for our understanding of the history of the human race, and how the whole enterprise nearly collapsed under the weight of Australia's fractious relationship with Indonesia. Featuring a bizarre island where evolution ran amok in isolation from the rest of the world and an eerie myth that may well be grounded in truth (not to mention the reasons why other hobbits may well be alive and undiscovered elsewhere in Indonesia), this remarkable book is an adventure story and a fascinating investigation, a moving and personal narrative and a landmark celebration of scientific endeavour. Due Jan

## Crocodile

### Evolution's Greatest Survivor

Lynne KELLY 288pp Hb \$35.00

An ancient animal whose ancestors have roamed the earth since the time of the dinosaurs, the crocodile has survived continental drift, ice ages and the loss of once-prolific species. Today, the Australian saltie, the Chinese alligator, the Indian gharial and the black caiman are just some of the 23 species of crocodilian descendants found across the world. Human interaction with these dangerous, intriguing animals has been reflected in myths and legends dating back to earliest recorded history. Feared or revered, crocodilians have always fascinated. Sadly, many breeds of this seemingly indestructible species now face extinction because of human activity, intrusion into their habitats and retaliation for the threat they pose to humans.

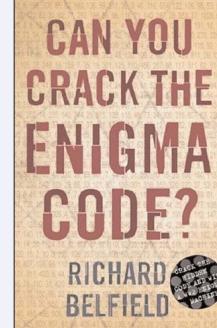


## Can You Crack the Enigma Code?

Richard BELFIELD 291pp Tp \$32.95

This fascinating and intriguing book looks at some of the most difficult codes in history that have withstood years of investigation and shows the reader how they too can learn to solve or create almost any code. Sometimes, as with the notorious Zodiac Killer or the Voynich Manuscript, the codes remain unsolved, or as with Kryptos in the CIA's headquarters, only 90% has been decoded. The author explains what the current theories are and provides avenues for further exploration. In the final element of the book, working with a team of top cryptographers from the Royal Holloway University, the author sets his own code, based on the techniques that have been revealed throughout the book.

*The person who deciphers the code will win an original German WWII Enigma machine worth almost £30,000!*



## Mismatch

### Why Our World No Longer Fits Our Bodies

Peter GLUCKMAN & Mark HANSON

304pp Hb \$55.00

We have built a world that no longer fits our bodies. Our genes - selected through our evolution - and the many processes by which our development is tuned within the womb, limit our capacity to adapt to the modern urban lifestyle. There is a mismatch. We are seeing the impact of this mismatch in the explosion of diabetes, heart disease and obesity. But it also has consequences in earlier puberty and old age. Bringing together the latest scientific research in evolutionary biology, development, medicine, anthropology and ecology, the authors, both leading medical scientists, argue that many of our problems as modern-day humans can be understood in terms of this fundamental and growing mismatch. It is an insight that we ignore at our peril.

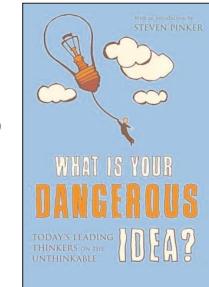
## What is Your Dangerous Idea?

### Today's Leading Thinkers on the Unthinkable

John BROCKMAN (Editor)

352pp Hb \$29.95

The history of science is replete with ideas that were considered socially, morally or emotionally dangerous in their time. The Copernican and Darwinian revolutions are obvious examples - radical, brilliant insights that did not so much push the envelope as rip it to shreds. These ideas were dangerous because they challenged our comfort zone. But what are the dangerous ideas of the 21st century? Which theories do the world's leading thinkers and scientists regard as too hot to handle, not because the idea may be false, but because it might turn out to be true? This is a compilation of the most eminent answers to the question asked by the renowned Edge.org: What is your dangerous idea? Due Jan



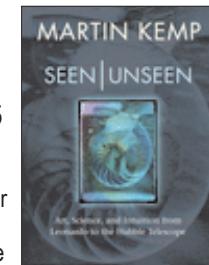
## Seen / Unseen

### Art, Science and Intuition from Leonardo to the Hubble Telescope

Martin KEMP

368pp Hb \$79.95

This is a deep, richly illustrated and erudite analysis of the interconnections between science and the visual arts. Kemp explores the responses of artists, scientists and their instruments to the world, ranging from early representations of perspective to pinhole cameras, particle accelerators and the Hubble telescope. From Leonardo, Durer and the inventors of photography to contemporary sculptors, from Galileo and Darwin to Stephen J Gould, Kemp considers the way in which scientists and artists have perceived the world and responded to its patterns, observing common "structural intuitions" reflected in their work.

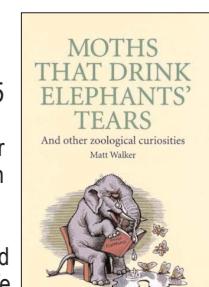


## Moths That Drink Elephants' Tears And Other Zoological Curiosities

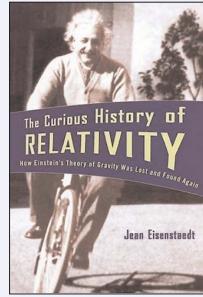
Matt WALKER

160pp Hb \$29.95

Did you know that the male flour beetle is the only animal that can mate with, and impregnate, a female he has never met? Or that virgin male butterflies make better lovers than more experienced ones? Or that rats can learn the difference between Dutch and Japanese? This is an entertaining and addictive collection of eclectic insights and unusual facts, detailing the wondrous diversity of animal life that surrounds us. Walker is a senior editor at *New Scientist*, the world's leading science magazine, and all the facts in the book are taken from primary scientific sources.



**The Curious History of Relativity** (363pp Hb \$56.95) tells the story of both events surrounding general relativity and the techniques employed by Einstein and the relativists to construct, develop and understand his almost impenetrable theory. Jean Eisenstaedt, one of the world's leading experts on the subject, also discusses the theory's place in the evolution of 20th-century physics.



#### Einstein's Enigma or Black Holes in My Bubble Bath

**Bubble Bath** (360pp Hb \$39.95) by C V Vishveshwara is an entertaining look at the story of gravitation theory from its earliest origins to the latest developments in astrophysics, focusing on Einstein's theory of general relativity and black-hole physics.

**In Principles of Statistical Inference** (236pp Pb \$65), D R Cox gives a comprehensive and balanced appraisal of statistical inference. He develops the key concepts, describing and comparing the main ideas and controversies over foundational issues that have been keenly argued for more than 200 years. The mathematics is kept as elementary as feasible, though previous knowledge of statistics is assumed. The book will be valued by every user or student of statistics who is serious about understanding the uncertainty inherent in conclusions from statistical analyses.

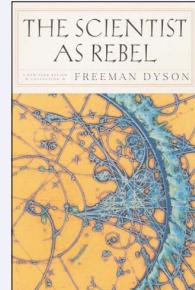
**In Moral Minds** (489pp Hb \$59.95), Marc Hauser argues that humans have evolved a universal moral instinct, unconsciously propelling us to deliver judgements of right and wrong independent of gender, education and religion. This revolutionary book shows that the common belief that we reach moral decisions by consciously reasoning from principled explanations of what society determines is right or wrong is illusory.

**Dark Cosmos** (240pp Hb \$54) by Dan Hooper is about the 95% of the Universe that is invisible. The discovery that most of our Universe is 'missing' is one of the most surprising and important events in the history of cosmology. This book tells the story of how we learnt about dark matter and dark energy and how scientists are trying to learn more.

Leonard Susskind was one of the pioneers of string theory and in **The Cosmic Landscape: String Theory and the Illusion of Intelligent Design** (403pp Pb \$35), he argues that our narrow 20th century view of a unique universe will have to give way to the much broader concept of a gigantic cosmic landscape or 'megaverse'.

**Power Speed and Form: Engineers and the Making of the Twentieth Century** (270pp Hb \$49.95) by David Billington is the first accessible account of the engineering behind eight breakthrough innovations that transformed life from 1876 to 1939 - telephone, electric power, oil refining, automobile, airplane, radio, long-span steel bridge and building with reinforced concrete.

Freeman Dyson's **The Scientist as Rebel** (360pp Hb \$45) is a collection of essays in which he recounts fascinating episodes from the history of science, interspersed with reminiscences from his own life and career. It offers fresh and often unexpected perspectives on the history, methods and ethics of science, as well as informative and accessible ways of thinking about contentious current debates on the relations between science, religion, literature and society.



**In Parting the Cosmic Veil** (229pp Hb \$64.95), Kenneth Lang describes our gradual awareness of a vast, previously concealed Universe. It is a story of expanding horizons and the discovery of invisible worlds, made possible with new technology and novel telescopes that have broadened our range of perception and sharpened our vision.

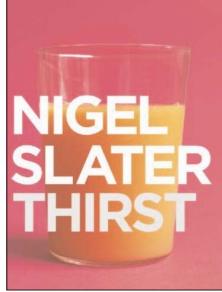
**Eye on the Sky** (248pp Hb \$44.95) by Geoff Andersen is all about optical telescopes - their history, operation, discoveries, development and future. It offers a clear explanation of how telescopes work and why the cost of building them can aptly be called astronomical. In addition to the telescope's role in conventional astronomy, it describes telescopes used during the day (solar observatories), for detecting ripples in the fabric of space-time (gravitational wave detectors) and even for gathering extra-galactic particles (neutrino and gamma-ray observatories).

Dave

#### Thirst

Nigel SLATER

192pp \$30.00  
Slater turns his trademark enthusiasm for the pleasures of eating to the pleasures of drinking fresh juices. "I have always been a slave to juice, that sweet, heady nectar that dribbles from a ripe peach or melon, runs down your chin and drips onto your chest!" He explains that, once you reconcile yourself to cleaning your juicer, you're hooked, since the benefits of a glass of fruit and vegetable juice can be felt almost immediately. In this inspiring collection of juicing ideas, he clearly explains the health benefits and suggests some very elegant combinations (pear and watercress), comforting old favourites (banana, milk and honey) and clean-tasting, revitalisers (pineapple mint shake).

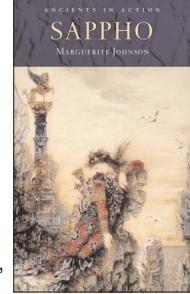


#### Sappho

Marguerite JOHNSON

144pp Pb \$35.00

In the newly created tradition of the *Ancients in Action* series, Johnson has written a fascinating and accessible account of what remains of the life and works of the Greek poet, Sappho. She covers Sappho's ancient biography, as well as the post-classical accounts of her life, which continue to appear, in a variety of creative and non-creative contexts, in contemporary literature and art. Sappho's poetry, essentially preserved in tantalising fragments, is discussed in a series of thematic chapters that include her religious writings, particularly directed to the goddess of love, Aphrodite; personal interpretations of mythological themes; marriage hymns and love songs to female companions.

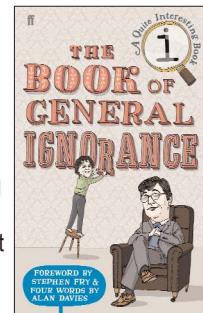


#### The Book of General Ignorance

Stephen FRY

304pp Hb \$29.95

How much do we really know about anything? It's a question that has obsessed philosophers, scientists and men in pubs for most of human history. Thomas Edison thought we knew less than one millionth of a percent about anything; Mark Twain thought it would take eight million years to master mathematics alone; Ambrose Bierce believed knowledge was just the small bit of ignorance that we arrange and classify. Fry sets out, calmly and humbly, to show us that a lot of what we think we know is actually wrong, incorrect, piffle and nonsense.

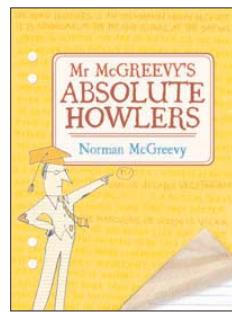


#### Mr McGreevy's Absolute Howlers

Norman McGREEVY

128pp Pb \$19.95

This is a side-splitting collection of the most earnest and mangled attempts at the English language made by generations of schoolchildren. A man with an obsession for (mis)communication, McGreevy has painstakingly collected together the best of their very worst efforts. From the historical, "Rome was overthrown by invasions of the Huns, Visigoths and Osteopaths" to the religious, "Solomon had 300 wives and 700 cucumbers" and the R-rated, "As he walked through the room, he heard the sound of heavy breeding" and the unintentionally profound, "Matrimony is a place where souls suffer for a time on account of their sins." Under Mr McGreevy's tutelage, nothing is safe or sacred.

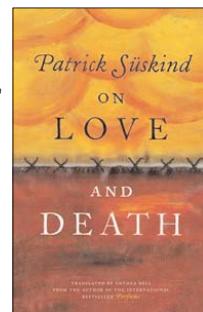


#### On Love and Death

Patrick SÜSKIND

96pp Pb \$24.95

In this intriguing blend of provocative images and reflective prose, Süskind reveals the hidden source of his mesmerising fiction: an obsession with the darkly erotic link between love and death. A witty and thought-provoking meditation on the two elemental forces of human existence, drawing on scenes as contemporary as a young couple having oral sex in a traffic jam, as literary as Thomas Mann's discovery of forbidden love at an advanced age, and as mythical as the stories of death conquered through love in the narratives of Orpheus and Jesus.



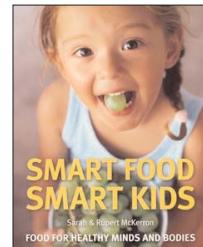
#### Smart Food Smart Kids

##### Food for Healthy Minds and Bodies

Sarah & Rupert McKERRON

184pp Tp \$35.00

Many Western societies today are seeing the effects of poor nutrition and excessive junk food consumption on their kids. This book tackles these problems head on and sets out the simple facts about the benefits of good nutrition, the advantages of organic ingredients and how to avoid chemically-laden food.

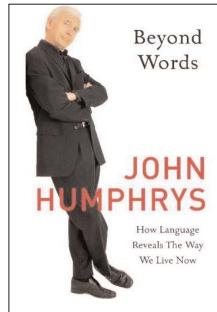


# Miscellaneous

## Beyond Words

### How Language Reveals the Way We Live Now

John HUMPHRYS 256pp Hb \$29.95  
Based on the huge response to *Lost for Words* (Pb \$20.95), it's clear many of us share Humphrys' strong feelings about the use and misuse of the English language. Here he takes a sharp look at phrases and expressions in current use to expose the often hidden attitudes that lie behind them - from the schoolroom to the boardroom, from Westminster to the weather forecast.



## Gallimaufry

### A Hodge-podge of Our Vanishing Vocabulary

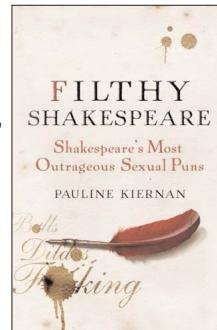
Michael QUINION 288pp Hb \$42.95  
What is a gallimaufry anyway? And when did you last hear someone refer to the wireless? What was the original paraphernalia? Would you wear a billycock? Language is always changing and here Quinion has gathered together some fascinating examples of words and meanings that have vanished from our language. Sometimes a word is lost when the thing it describes becomes obsolete, sometimes it survives in a figurative sense while the original meaning is lost, and sometimes it simply gives way to a more popular alternative. The story of these and many other words opens a window into the lives of past speakers of the English language.

## Filthy Shakespeare

### Shakespeare's Most Outrageous

#### Sexual Puns

Pauline KIERNAN 256pp Pb \$29.95  
Despite the richness of Shakespeare's sexual language, scant attention has been paid to it until now. His plays and poems pulsate with puns on body parts and what they do. This book presents over 70 examples of the Bard at his raciest, arranged under different categories: from Balls to Buggery, from Cunnilingus to the Clap, from Homosexual to Transvestite. Each filthy Shakespearean passage is 'translated' into modern English and the hidden sexual meanings of the original words explained.



## Reading Like a Writer

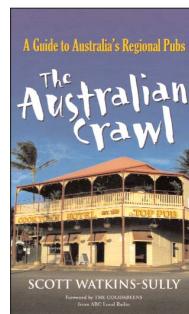
### A Guide for People Who Love Books and Those Who Want to Write Them

Francine PROSE 273pp Hb \$40.00  
An insider's report on how professionals read and write instructs aspiring writers on the methods employed by such literary figures as Kafka, Austen and Dickens. This resource draws on key examples to demonstrate the essentials of good plot and character development.

## The Australian Crawl

### A Guide to Australia's Regional Pubs

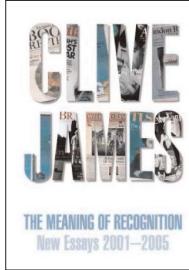
Scott WATKINS-SULLY 224pp Pb \$27.95  
Every town has its pub and every pub has its characters. Australia's country pubs are places to drink, eat, socialise and be entertained. If you're a road-weary traveller, they also offer a place to sleep. Here's a guide that gives the low-down on over 200 watering holes, region by region, across Australia. Not only does the guide offer an insight into the best places to eat, drink and enjoy the local culture, it also highlights points of local interest and recounts a few yarns from the characters who can be found holding up the bar, willing to bend an ear or two.



## The Meaning of Recognition

### New Essays 2001-2005

Clive JAMES 496pp Pb \$22.95  
Whether discussing Bing Crosby, Bruno Schulz or Shakespeare, James manages to prioritise style and substance simultaneously, his tone never less than pitch-perfect, his argument always considered. With each phrase carefully crafted and each piece offering cause for thought, the resulting volume - which takes the reader from London to Bali, theatre to library, from pre-election campaigning to sitting in front of the TV at home watching *The Sopranos* and *The West Wing* - is remarkable not only for its range and insight, but also its intimacy and honesty.



## The 101 Most Influential People Who Never Lived

### How Characters of Fiction, Myth, Legends, Television and Movies Have Shaped Our Society, Changed Our Behaviour and Set the Course of History

Dan KARLAN & Allan LAZAR

336pp Pb \$23.00

From Santa Claus to Buffy the Vampire Slayer, from Uncle Sam to Uncle Tom, here is a compelling, eye-opening and endlessly entertaining compendium of fictional trendsetters and world-shakers that have helped shape our culture and our lives.

## Children's

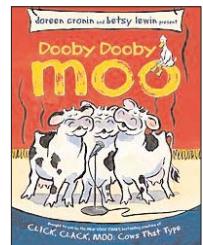
*reviewed by Lindy Jones*

### Dooby Dooby Moo

Doreen CRONIN & Betsy LEWIN

36pp Pb \$14.95

Duck is back! This time he decides to win a trampoline at the county fair talent quest. Farmer Brown is suspicious and keeps an eye on his animals, but all he can ever hear is their moos, baas and quacks. Little does he know they are practising their songs! With simple, highly expressive illustrations, this is a delight from the first note to the last!



### The Magic Flute

Retold by Anne GATTI

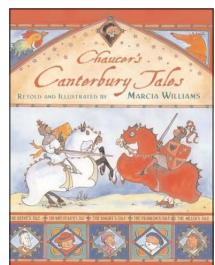
Mozart's glorious opera is presented here in a charming manner. Illustrations in quite beautiful tones are placed on every double page and illuminate the episodes of this fairy tale in which the magic flute charms the beasts, trials must be endured, goodness triumphs over evil and true love is rewarded. A splendid introduction to the story for children (and a gorgeous reminder to the music lovers!)

### Chaucer's Canterbury Tales

Retold by Marcia WILLIAMS

45pp Hb \$29.95

In the style Williams has made her own, she takes the tales of the Wife of Bath, the Reeve, Miller, Knight, Franklin, Clerk, Summoner, Pardon and the Nun's Priest, and tells them in a lively manner suitable for younger readers. The colourful illustrations are presented in panels, with comments along the edges and characters speaking in medieval English, but with the gist of the story rendered in modern English. Retains both the lesson and the entertainment of Chaucer's tales.

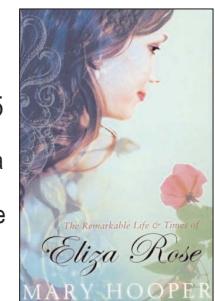


### The Remarkable Life and Times of Eliza Rose

Mary HOOPER

340pp Pb \$16.95

Eliza has been thrown into prison for stealing a pastry. London in 1670 is a dangerous place for a young woman without protectors, but Eliza has been thrown out of home by her stepmother while her father is working in London after the Great Fire. Rescued by an old woman who has nefarious plans for her, Eliza manages to keep her innocence by befriending Nell Gwyn and working as her maid. An easily-read story full of the colour of the period, plus a bit of romance and adventure. Readers 13-16

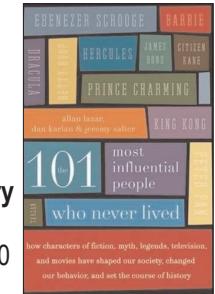
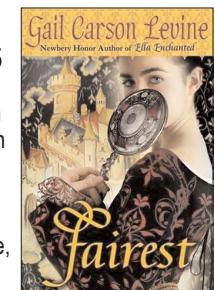


### Fairest

Gail Carson LEVINE

326pp Hb \$25

A version of the Snow White fairy tale told for young teen girls. Aza was abandoned at an inn in the kingdom of Ayortha, where singers are held in the highest regard. Raised by the innkeepers as one of their own, she is blessed with a glorious voice, consolation for the fact she is considered extremely ugly to look upon. In true fairy tale style, she finds herself in the palace, befriended by the young and vain queen, Ivi, and Ivi's stepson, Ijori, and has to prove herself before the happy ending. An enchanting tale.



Is it too late to remind all our History Buffs about the *Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History*, for material produced from 20 September 2004 to 31 December 2006? The embossed gold medallion is accompanied by a grant of \$100,000. Information at [www.dest.gov.au/pmhhistoryprize](http://www.dest.gov.au/pmhhistoryprize). Good Luck!

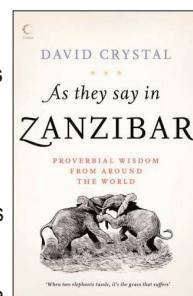
I was delighted to hear that Helen Garner won the very lucrative *Melbourne Prize* for a body of work. Her essays are always a delight and I think **Joe Cinque's Consolation: A True Story of Death, Grief and the Law** (\$24.95 Pb) is one of the best books on my shelves. Christos Tsiolkas also won \$30,000 as part of the *Melbourne Prize* for new writing. His **Dead Europe** (\$23.95 Pb) is a brilliant book, although not for everyone.

Language Book Centre has produced yet another substantial catalogue for Secondary and Tertiary LOTE 2007. If your school is not on the mailing list, or if you would like a personal copy, email [language@abbey.com.au](mailto:language@abbey.com.au) or call 02 9267 1397 (or freecall 1800 802 432 from outside Sydney). There is an amazing variety of books for many languages on offer. Even I'm impressed!

In November, I saw some more "weasel words" make their way into the language. *The Washington Post* reported that "hungry" is not an accurate term and we should now refer to "very low food security". To offset any danger of this at Abbey's, we have lots of wonderful cookery books in our delicious Food and Wine Section, expertly run by Kathryn. (Our ever-helpful, ever-cheerful Kathryn is expecting a baby in May, so unfortunately we shall soon be missing her efficient service). You will also find some other offerings such as **The Virago Book of Food: The Joy of Eating**, an amusing anthology of writing on food by women, edited by Jill Foulston (\$49.95 Hb 404pp) or a new edition of Ian Hemphill's classic, **Spice Notes and Recipes** (\$59.95 Hb 495pp incl index). This is a lovely production - look at the edges of the pages - and includes 60 new recipes from his daughter Kate.

I've sent a copy of the very nicely produced **A Castle in Tuscany: The Remarkable Life of Janet Ross** by Sarah Benjamin (\$45 Hb 223pp) off to my friend whose flat I shared a few years ago in a medieval tower on the end of the Ponte Vecchio in Florence. Janet Ross is not only the daughter of Victorian travel writer, Lucy Duff Gordon, but also the great aunt of Kinta Beevor (mother of Antony of **Stalingrad** fame), who wrote one of my favourite books, **A Tuscan Childhood** (\$22.95 Pb). The Ross family were prominent members of the English community in Florence and great friends with Bernard Berenson's household. Janet's collection of recipes from her Italian cook, **Leaves from Our Tuscan Kitchen**, which is the first English cookbook to concentrate on vegetables, was first published in 1899 and is still in print. Kathryn tells me a new paperback edition is due in January (expected price \$34.95). I might get a new copy, since mine is dated 1973.

I'm tempted to think that David Crystal is, like Asimov, an amalgamation of writer and researcher. He has so many books in print! His latest is called **As They Say in Zanzibar: Proverbial Wisdom from Around the World** (\$33 Pb 717pp incl index). It seems proverbs from another culture more easily escape being called clichés, and modern acceptance often allows shortened versions, such as "needs must" or "people in glass houses". There are over 2,000 proverbs listed under themes, then indexed by country. I'm not sure who will need such a reference book, but if you are searching for a topic for a speech or an essay or even for conversation, a quick look in here will set you thinking. How's this for a proverb from America?: "If you haven't much to do, start cleaning your own backyard."

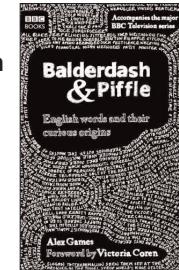


Another of David Crystal's recent books is **How Language Works: How Babies Babble, Words Change Meaning and Languages Live or Die** (\$45 Hb 500pp incl index). You could say this is about communication, as he also deals with voice clues, body language and expression, both physical and vocal. A fascinating book which would also be most useful for speech therapists. There is a 2nd edition of his famous **The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language** (\$75 in a large, flexible, heavy Pb 499pp). This new edition of an essential reference book has updated statistics, 44 new illustrations and more on World English and Internet English. This is a great book for dipping into as it sets out information in a most accessible way with lots of graphs and tables and boxed texts. I even found a section for typographic terms.

All these are upstairs in Linguistics, where I also found **The Story of French** by Jean-Benoit Nadeau & Julie Barlow (\$56 Hb 483pp). In a book about a language which has 40 'immortals' wearing Napoleonic hats and carrying swords to protect it, I'm not surprised to detect a note of proud bias. It discusses the history of the French language, both at home and overseas, and would be especially interesting for someone teaching French.

Our Reference section has been extended. We have so many books about words these days which don't really belong in Linguistics as such. The first one is **French for Le Snob: Adding Panache to Your Everyday Conversations** by Yvette Reche (\$28 Pb 398pp). This tells you the meaning of those borrowed phrases and also shows you the phonetic pronunciation (so you don't spoil the impact)! You'll find le mot juste in here for sure. I recently had reason to look up the real meaning of savoir-faire and found there is a subtle difference between this (knowing how to act, or tact) and savoir-vivre (knowing how to live, or sophistication). Arranged under Food, Architecture, Arts, Fashion and Style, with a pot-pourri of French loanwords and expressions. Another book which French language teachers would find useful as a starting point for lessons, although I thought an index of the phrases would have been helpful.

Two books about words, with good titles, are **Balderdash & Piffle: English Words and their Curious Origins** by Alex Games (\$29.95 Hb 304pp incl index), a refreshingly quirky, modern look at etymology, which has lots of nice surprises, and **Isms: From Autoeroticism to Zoroastrianism: An Irreverent Reference** by Gregor Bergman (\$22.95 Pb 268pp).



Continuing the French theme, I should tell you about **The Jigsaw Book of France** (\$25 Hb 6 board-pages). I have two such jigsaw books (**Alice in Wonderland** and **Winnie the Pooh**), which I use with my grandchildren. It's a sneaky way to teach and amuse at the same time and I don't get bored. Another educational book, for art enthusiasts only, is **Masterpieces Up Close: Western Painting from the 14th to 20th Century** by Claire d'Harcourt (\$39.95 Hb 64 very large pages).

We now have plush new carpet upstairs and new shelving for Children's Books and some language sections, as well as a bigger packing bench from which to send out the many orders we receive from our website. If we receive your order by 1pm and the book is in stock, we dispatch it the same day. If the book is not in stock, we contact you by email. We get many notes of appreciation for this prompt service. We recently had an email from a customer in Europe who said he was very surprised to find his order arrive faster than if he had ordered it from a supplier in his own country. Remember you can look on the website to re-read a previous or current Abbey's Advocate or Crime Chronicle, and you can subscribe to receive them by email, as well as Email Alerts for specific subjects.

When I heard about Penguin's latest celebration for the 60th Anniversary of the publication of the first Penguin Classic (**Homer's Odyssey**), I had a sense of déjà vu. Some fashionable modern designers have been commissioned to design one book each in a range of titles. **Crime and Punishment** designed by Fuel, **Lady Chatterley's Lover** designed by Paul Smith, **Madame Bovary** designed by Manolo Blahnik, **Tender is the Night** designed by Sam Taylor Wood and **The Idiot** designed by Ron Arad. Each book will be \$250. Only 1,000 copies of each title will be published and will no doubt be highly sought after by collectors. In the early 60s, when Ron Abbey was running the first all-Penguin Bookshop in Charing Cross Road for Collets, Penguin commissioned a team of designers, led by Germano Facetti, to put full-colour illustrations on the covers to encourage booksellers to shelf the books 'face-forward'. This plan, initiated by Tony Godwin, the new Prince at Harmondsworth, marked an enormously successful and long-standing change in production. I suspect the latest fashionable idea will pass most of us by.

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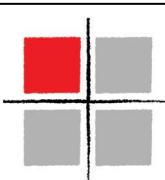


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