

A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

# ABBEY'S ADVOCATE

1968 Celebrating 40 Years of Independent Bookselling 2008

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## Abbey's Turns 40

[books@abbey.com.au](mailto:books@abbey.com.au)

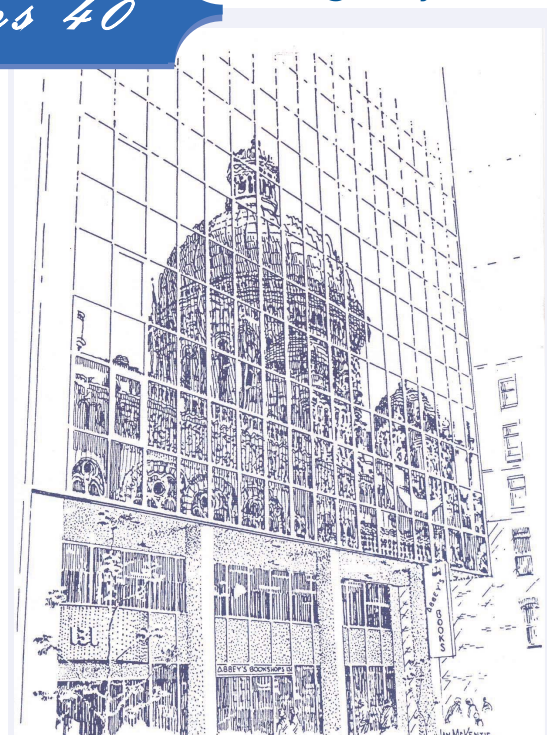
In 1968, Ron Abbey and I were living in Brisbane. Ron was deputy manager of the shipping department at Ampol Refinery. Our children - Donald, Jane and Alan - were at Camp Hill Primary School and I was keeping the home fires burning. I went down to Sydney at Easter to visit Ron's sister, Jean. Ron said, "While you're down there, see if you can't find a space for a bookshop." Ron was always a good delegator.

I visited our friend Jim Thorburn at his Pocket Bookshop in Pitt Street. When I came out, I saw that the Rural Bank Building opposite was vacant - due for demolition. Two months later, we had taken a temporary lease of those premises.

That was the very first Abbey's Bookshop at 115 Pitt Street. Jim was not pleased, but we've always believed it's beneficial for several bookshops to be near each other, just as there is now in the Sydney Book Quarter on our block here in York Street. One of the things that customers liked about us was that we were mavericks who sold cheap remainders at the front of the shop. Now, 40 YEARS LATER, there is much more of this story to tell!

Ron was always a big fan of Charles Dickens, so in the fine tradition of *Pickwick Papers*, please await further instalments...

*Eve Abbey*



The reflection of the QVB - home to Abbey's from 1969 to 1983 - sits atop our current premises at 131 York Street.

### Quarterly Essay #28

#### Exit Right

#### The Unravelling of John Howard

Judith BRETT 144pp Pb \$14.95

Brett explains why the tide turned on John Howard. This is an essay about leadership, in particular Howard's style of strong leadership, which led him to dominate his party with ultimately catastrophic results. She discusses how age became Howard's Achilles heel, how he lost the youth vote, how he lost Bennelong, and how he waited too long to call the election. She looks at the government's core failings - the policy vacuum, the blindness to climate change, the misjudgement of WorkChoices - and shows how Howard and his team insulated themselves from reality, tracing the key moments when Howard stared defeat in the face. She also explains why, after the Keating-Howard years, the ascendancy of Kevin Rudd will mark a new phase in the nation's political life.



### The Battle for Bennelong

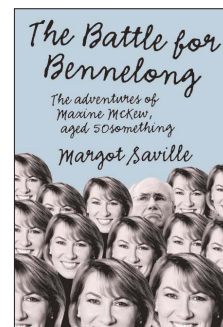
#### The Adventures of Maxine McKew

#### Aged 50 Something

Margot SAVILLE

280pp Pb \$24.95

Saville hits the campaign trail with Maxine McKew - indulging Maxine's obsession with dim sum, watching her draw yet another raffle, and dance excitedly at the Granny Smith Festival. In a tight contest against John Howard fought on issues such as the economy, WorkChoices and succession plans, did Maxine's dancing affect her primary vote? You'll find out in this fun, light read full of entertaining anecdotes.



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Books - Where Ideas Grow

## Homecoming

Bernhard SCHLINK

272pp Tp \$33.00

As a child, Peter Debauer becomes fascinated by a story he discovers in a volume of fiction edited by his Swiss grandparents. He initially reads only part of the tale, which has been torn from the bound proofs, the blank back pages of which he uses for his homework. He becomes obsessed with this tale of a soldier who comes home to find what? Debauer doesn't discover until years later, when he finds the missing pages of the story and manages to extrapolate the locale and put together the clues he has gathered over the intervening years. The crux of the narrative is mystery, and the attempt to unveil identity - both of others and of oneself - and it is told through Peter's search not only for the ending of this pulp-fiction homecoming story, but also for his search for its author, as he believes the story to be more truth than fiction. *Due Jan*



## Being Elizabeth Bennet

Create Your Own Jane Austen Adventure

Emma Campbell WEBSTER

352pp Hb \$29.95

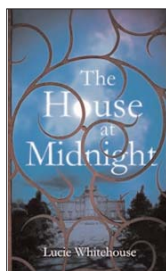
Elizabeth Bennet is the wittiest and most attractive heroine in English literature. For the first time, you are now given the opportunity to star in the most popular novel in the English language, *Pride and Prejudice*. You will be faced throughout this book with delicate challenges and dangerous choices. Whether you're accepting Mr Darcy the first time he professes his attachment, deciding to elope with Mr Wickham, or avoiding a murderous Lady Catherine de Bourgh, this is a chance to rewrite Austen's most famous book. You decide who to marry and when. If you've always preferred Mr Knightley's sophistication or have a sneaking admiration for the odious Mr Elliot, then you can marry them instead. However, make choices with caution: there are characters and plot twists to thwart your happy union with Pemberly's most eligible bachelor.

## The House at Midnight

Lucie WHITEHOUSE

384pp Tp \$32.95

Lucas, Danny, Michael, Rachel, Martha and Jo met as undergraduates at Oxford University and have been a tight-knit group of friends ever since. The novel opens on New Year's Eve as, now in their late 20s, they arrive at Stoneborough Manor, a stately pile that Lucas has inherited after the suicide of his art-dealer uncle. Best friends since university, Lucas and Jo have lusted after each other for years and finally risk their friendship to begin a relationship, but Lucas is haunted by the deaths of his parents and uncle and becomes obsessed by cinefilms of them at Stoneborough 20 years earlier. Within the claustrophobic confines of the house over a hot, decadent summer, sexual tensions escalate, shattering the group's friendship and changing all their lives irrevocably. *Due Jan*



## The Ingenious Edgar Jones

Elizabeth GARNER

352pp Tp \$33.00

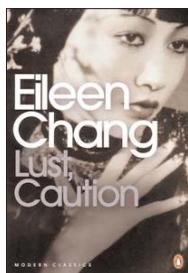
In 19th-century Oxford, an extraordinary child is born - Edgar Jones, a porter's son with a magical talent. Though his father cannot see beyond his academic slowness, his abilities as a metalworker and designer are quickly noticed and become a source of tension within the family. When Edgar comes to the attention of a maverick professor at work on a museum of the natural sciences, he is at once plucked from obscurity and plunged into the heart of a debate that threatens to tear apart the university. Edgar's position is a dangerous one - will he be able to control the rebellious spirit that fires his inventiveness, but threatens to ruin him and break up his family once and for all? *Due Jan*

## Lust, Caution and Other Stories

Eileen CHANG

128pp Pb \$22.95

In 1940s Shanghai, beautiful young Jiazhi spends her days playing mahjong and drinking tea with high society ladies. But China is occupied by invading Japanese forces and things are not always what they seem in wartime. Jiazhi's life is a front. A patriotic student radical, her mission is to seduce a powerful employee of the occupying government and lead him to the assassin's bullet. Yet as she waits for him to arrive at their liaison, Jiazhi begins to wonder if she is cut out to be a femme fatale and coldly take Mr Yi to his death. Is she beginning to fall in love with him? A passionate tale of espionage, deception and love, *Lust, Caution* is accompanied here by four further dazzling short stories.

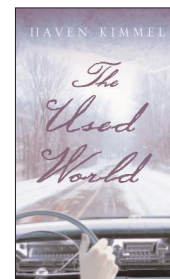


## The Used World

Haven KIMMEL

304pp Pb \$28.00

Hazel Hunnicutt is the proprietor of The Used World Emporium, a cavernous antiques store filled with the cast-offs of countless lives in the town of Jonah, Indiana. Knowing, witty and often infuriatingly stubborn, Hazel has lived in the town her whole life, daughter of the local doctor and keeper of many of its secrets. Working with her in the store are Claudia, a solitary soul since the death of her beloved parents and, at over 6 feet, an oddity to all who see her; and Rebekah, a young woman forced to leave the suffocating Christian sect into which she was born, now adrift in the outside world. As their lives intertwine and a dark chapter of history is revealed, the three women are forced to confront their pasts and face up to the future as this gripping and heart-warming novel reaches its dramatic climax. *Due Jan*



## The Secret Life of Josephine

Carolyn ERICKSON

400pp Tp \$33.00

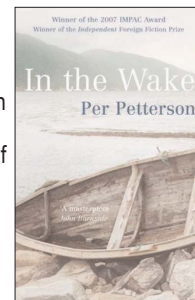
Born on the Caribbean island of Martinique, Josephine had exotic Creole appeal that would ultimately propel her to reign over an empire as the wife of the most powerful man in the world. Married young to an arrogant French aristocrat who died during the Terror, Josephine also narrowly missed losing her head to the guillotine. But her extraordinary charm, sensuality and natural cunning helped her become mistress to some of the most powerful politicians in post-Revolutionary France. Soon she married the much younger General Bonaparte, whose armies garnered France, an empire that ran from Europe to Africa and the New World, and who crowned himself and his wife Emperor and Empress of France. He dominated on the battlefield, while she presided over the worlds of fashion and glamour. But Josephine's heart belonged to another man - the mysterious, compelling stranger who had won her as a girl in Martinique. *Due Jan*

## In the Wake

Per PETTERSON

208pp Pb \$24.95

Arvid has lost his parents and his two younger brothers in a ferry accident. Only he and his brother are left alive. The novel he is writing about his father is stalled; the grief and guilt he feels at having survived are too overwhelming. It is as though Arvid has become dislocated from the flow of life. His only human contact is with his Kurdish neighbour, and a woman whom he glimpses in the flat across the street, whose face seems to mirror his own loneliness and loss. Then slowly, the memories begin to return: of his childhood, his father, his two younger brothers. He begins to write again. Poignant, restrained and at times unbearably moving. Winner of the 2007 IMPAC Award for Independent Foreign Fiction.



## The Con

Jesse PENTECOST

320pp Pb \$22.95

Derek Gunderson is a pianist in the last year of a degree at a conservatorium of music. He is a fine pianist, coasting toward a career in music. Emotionally complacent, he supplements his crushes of the moment with casual, empty sex with his adventurous ex-girlfriend. When he meets Jocasta Davies at a party, it initially seems as though she will be another prize to pursue lazily. Perhaps he'll get her, perhaps he won't. It hardly matters to Derek when so many aspects of his life are so well taken care of. Within a space of a couple of days, things fall apart for Derek - an important performance is a disaster, Jocasta announces she is involved with someone else, his ex-girlfriend starts seeing his best friend and his health goes downhill. Derek is forced to rebuild his character and life, reconcile his relationships and face the terrifying fact that his driving passion for music - his lifeblood - is fading. *Due Jan*

## Afterwards

Rachel SEIFFERT

336pp Pb \$24.95

To love someone, need you know everything about them? When Alice and Joseph meet, they fall quickly into a tentative, but serious, relationship. She is a nurse, he a painter and decorator; both are still young and hopeful of each other, but each brings with them an emotional burden. Alice's father has been a yawning absence all her life and her beloved grandmother, who helped raise her, has recently died. For his part, Joseph refuses to speak about his army experiences in Northern Ireland and Alice suspects that his general reticence hides an even more deeply troubled past. When her widowed grandfather begins to tell Joseph about his own RAF experiences in 1950s Kenya - stories he had shared only with his wife - something still raw is tapped in Joseph. His reaction to the older man's unburdening of guilt is both unexpected and devastating for them all.



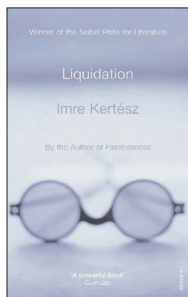


## Liquidation

Imre KERTESZ

130pp Pb \$24.95

A stunning new novel from the 2002 Nobel Prize Laureate in Literature, this is the story of a Hungarian writer whose death forces his circle of friends to confront their own terrible moment in history. 10 years have passed since the fall of Communism. B, a writer of great repute - whose birth and survival in Auschwitz defied all probability - has taken his own life. His friend Kingbitter discovers among his papers a play entitled Liquidation, in which he reads an eerie foretelling of the personal and political crises that he and B's other friends now face. Having survived the Holocaust and the years of Communist rule, having experienced the surge of hope that rose up from the rubble of the Wall, they are left with little other than a sense of chaos and an utter loss of identity. An intricately layered story of history and humanity - powerful, disturbing, lyrical and brilliantly told.

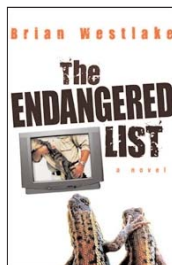


## The Endangered List

Brian WESTLAKE

320pp Pb \$29.95

For 20 years, Brian 'Frosty' Westlake has been the best mate, understudy, rigger and heir apparent to Australia's "biggest export since wool", the TV naturalist Mick Lamington. Mick is worth a fortune, especially in the US, where the network and millions of viewers can't get enough of his laidback larrikin joking around with the world's deadliest creatures. When Mick dies in a bizarre accident while shooting an underwater documentary, the hugely profitable but highly leveraged house of cards he has built threatens to collapse, unless a replacement can be found to finish filming the series. Frosty is the real animal wrangler behind the scenes of the show and knows he will be the perfect replacement for Mick. He is devastated when the job goes instead to ex-Chippendale model and scuba diver, Glenn Mellon. But then Mellon dies in another unlikely accident on the job and Frosty is asked to compile a short list of nature presenters to take over the series. Opportunity knocks and madness takes hold as Frosty - with a bit of help from his mates in the wild - figures out how to be the last man standing. *Due Jan*

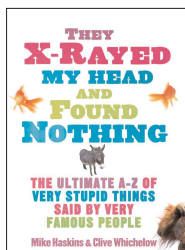


## They X-Rayed My Head and Found Nothing The Ultimate A-Z of Very Stupid Things Said by Very Famous People

Mike HASKINS & Clive WHICHELOW

544pp Hb \$29.95

"You see those things... Don't think I'm being daft... Them things that look like eyes: are they their real eyes?" Jade Goody (on seeing a peacock). Celebrated figures from the worlds of politics, sport and show business all give generously of their senselessness. George W Bush, Jade Goody and Prince Philip all make their contributions. And Mariah Carey, Tony Blair, Britney Spears and David Beckham do their bit too. This book will make you realise just how clever you are. And how very stupid other people can be.



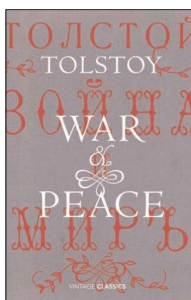
## War and Peace

Leo TOLSTOY ( Larissa VOLOKHONSKY &

Richard PEAVER Trans)

1,296pp Hb \$39.95

One of the richest novels ever written, Tolstoy's enthralling epic combines history and fiction in his depiction of Russia's lengthy war with the French armies of Napoleon and its effects on the domestic lives of those caught up in the conflict. He creates some of the most vital and involving characters in literature as he follows the rise and fall of families in St Petersburg and Moscow who are linked by their personal and political relationships. His heroes are the thoughtful yet impulsive Pierre Bezukhov, his intelligent and ambitious friend Prince Andrei, and the woman who becomes indispensable to both of them, the enchanting Natasha Rostova. Stunningly translated with remarkable fidelity to the all-important tone of Tolstoy's original, and including an introduction, notes, a chapter summary and an index of historical figures, this edition is destined to become the definitive English translation for our time. *Due Jan*

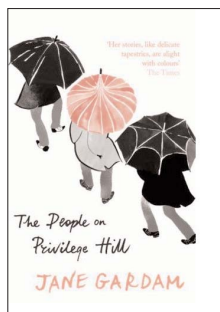


## The People on Privilege Hill

Jane GARDAM

224pp Hb \$39.95

Gardam's delightful short stories range from the Lake District to Dorset; from Wimbledon, where an old Victorian mansion has been converted into a home for unmarried mothers, to wartime London, where a hospital is the scene of a job interview in the middle of the Blitz. In Pangbourne (not, in this instance, the place, but the name of an ape), a lonely woman allows herself tenderly to fall in love with a gorilla; Snap is about a loveless one-night stand and its ironic punishment. Gardam is a writer at the height of her powers, well known for her caustic wit, free-wheeling imagination, love of humanity and wicked powers of observation, as well as the hint of the bizarre and the surreal that she brings to her fiction. Her new collection of short stories is a delicious treat.

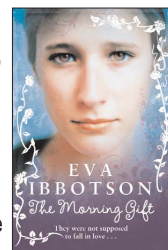


## The Morning Gift

Eva IBBOTSON

507pp Pb \$16.95

Ruth has always known what life will hold for her - Vienna as the setting and her beloved cousin and talented pianist Heini as her husband. But Hitler has other plans for Eastern Europe, so her half-Jewish family flees. Left behind in a mix-up, her only chance of escaping is a marriage of convenience to an old family friend, a British palaeontologist; although when they do finally arrive in London, they keep it secret. A lovely tale of misapprehensions, muddles and eventual happiness, what elevates this from a throwaway romance are the acute observations of human nature liberally sprinkled throughout. Perfect holiday reading for girls 14+



## Sight

A M VRETTOS

295pp Pb \$16.95

Dylan lives in a small community that harbours many secrets and resentments. She has secrets of her own; for years she has helped the local police when children go missing - she can 'see' them, but often only when they're dead. Cate has moved around a lot and, as the new girl at school, latches on to Dylan. Fear grips the town as children start going missing, triggering tales of 'the Drifter' who was blamed for a series of disappearances a decade ago. The psychic element is relatively minor; Dylan's relations with her friends is the true story. A strong tale for older readers.

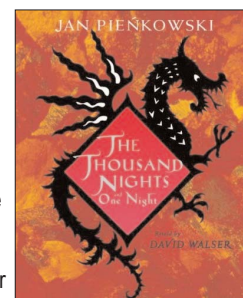


## The Thousand Nights and One Night

David WALSER & Jan PIENKOWSKI

160pp Hb \$35

Sumptuously illustrated with Pienkowski's trademark silhouettes and glowing colours, Walser's retellings of tales from the Arabian nights bring these wonderful stories to a new generation of readers. Ali Baba, Aladdin, Sinbad and Shahrazade's attempt to save her life through story-telling are all vividly recounted, along with a few other less famous tales. A magical book, for adults as well as children.

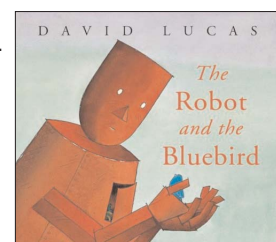


## The Robot and the Bluebird

David LUCAS

28pp Hb \$32.95

This is a deceptively simple fable about a robot with a broken heart. Consigned to the scrap heap, he rusts away until a bluebird seeks refuge on her long journey south. Without the strength to fly further, the Robot offers to carry her there, in the space where his heart used to be. A whimsical story for young children, with uncomplicated illustrations.

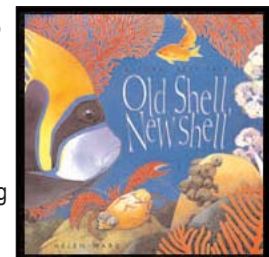


## Old Shell, New Shell

Helen WARD

32pp Pb \$15

This came out a number of years ago, but has been unavailable for far too long; I think it one of the best picture books concerning the sea and its denizens. The story is simple - a hermit crab goes looking for a new shell. Through this device, the reader is taken on a tour of the coral reef and sea floor as the crab looks for the perfect shell. The illustrations are technically proficient and accurate, the colours are clean and bright without being gaudy, and there is excellent information at the back about the various fish etc encountered. Truly beautiful and also very informative. Ages 5+



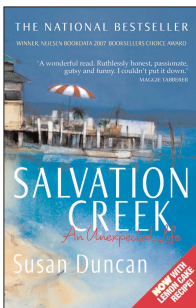


## Salvation Creek

Susan DUNCAN

416pp Pb \$24.95

At 44, Susan Duncan appeared to have it all. Editor of two of Australia's top-selling women's magazines, a happy marriage, a jet-setting lifestyle covering stories from New York to Greenland, rubbing shoulders with Hollywood royalty, the world was her oyster. But when her beloved husband and brother die within three days of each other, her glittering life shatters. In shock, she zips on her work face and soldiers on, until one morning 18 months later when she simply can't get out of bed. Heartbreaking, funny and searingly honest, this is the story of a woman who found the courage not only to walk away from a successful career and begin again, but to beat the odds in her own battle for survival and find a new life - and love - in a tiny waterside idyll cut off from the outside world.

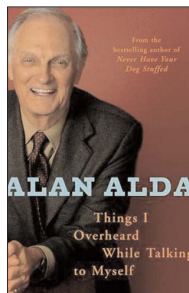


## Things I Overheard While Talking to Myself

Alan ALDA

224pp Tp \$32.95

Acclaimed actor and bestselling author Alan Alda has written a shrewd and funny account of some impossible questions that he's asked himself over the years: What do I value? What, exactly, is the good life? (And what does that even mean?) Alda listens in on things he's heard himself saying at critical points in his life - from the turbulence of the 60s, to his first Broadway show, to the birth of his children, to the ache of September 11. He notices that doorways are where the truth is told and wonders what one thing - be it art, activism, family, money or fame - could lead to a life of meaning.



## Roma the First

### A Biography of Dame Roma Mitchell

Susan MAGAREY & Kerrie ROUND 480pp Pb \$39.95

Here is Roma Flinders Mitchell, 1913-2000. It is a life spanning a century that transformed the position of women, changes that she led. She was the first woman chancellor of an Australian university, the first woman in Australia to be made a Queen's Counsel and to be appointed a judge in a superior court, and the first woman Governor of an Australian state. Her life is also a story about contradictions. A life-long and devout Catholic, her religion aligned her with Irish working-class Outsiders, yet she gained a position at the heart of the Protestant Establishment in a world almost exclusively male.



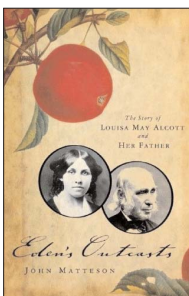
## Eden's Outcasts

### The Story of Louisa May Alcott and Her Father

John MATTESON

528pp Hb \$40.95

The beloved author of Little Women was torn between pleasing her idealistic father and planting her feet in the material world. Louisa May Alcott's name is known universally. Yet, during her youth, the famous Alcott was her father, Bronson - an eminent teacher, lecturer and admired friend of Emerson and Thoreau. Wilful and exuberant, Louisa flew in the face of all her father's intricate theories of child rearing. She could not understand the frugal life her father preached, one that reached its epitome in the failed utopian community of Fruitlands. In a family that insisted on self-denial and spiritual striving, Louisa dreamed of wealth and fame. At the same time, like most daughters, she wanted her father's approval. As her father struggled to recover from a breakdown and slowly resurrect his career, Louisa learned to support her family, teaching if she must, but finally finding her vocation in writing. *Due Jan*



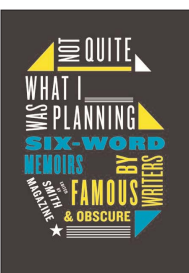
## Not Quite What I Was Planning

### Six-Word Memoirs by Writers Famous and Obscure

Larry SMITH

240pp Pb \$23.00

When Hemingway famously wrote, "For Sale: baby shoes, never worn," he proved that an entire story can be told using a half dozen words. When the online storytelling magazine SMITH asked readers to submit six-word memoirs, they proved a whole, real life can be told this way too. The results are fascinating, hilarious, shocking and moving. From small sagas of bittersweet romance ("Found true love, married someone else") to proud achievements and stinging regrets ("After Harvard, had baby with crackhead"), these terse true tales relate the diversity of human experience in tasty, bite-sized pieces. From authors Jonathan Lethem and Richard Ford to comedians Stephen Colbert and Amy Sedaris to ordinary folks around the world, everyone has a six-word story to tell. *Due Jan*



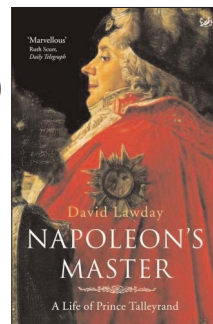
## Napoleon's Master

### A Life of Prince Talleyrand

David LAWDAY

400pp Tp \$45.00

He took on Napoleon with a set of weapons that seemed unsuited to the task: flattery, courtesy and an alarmingly straight face. And he won. Quite as much as the Duke of Wellington, it was the club-footed genius of French diplomacy that defeated the greatest conqueror since Julius Caesar. This is the story of Prince Talleyrand, who attracts as much scorn as Napoleon wins glory. To his critics, the arch-aristocrat who delivered France and all Europe from the Emperor's follies is the prince of vice - turncoat, hypocrite, liar, plotter, God-baiter and womaniser. To make matters worse, he was highly successful at them all. In this life of the master diplomat, Lawday follows Talleyrand's remarkable career through the most turbulent age Europe has known - the mad leap from France's rotting ancien regime into the Revolution of 1789, Robespierre's Terror, Napoleon's epic wars and his dramatic fall, and on through restored kings to more revolution.



## When a Crocodile Eats the Sun

Peter GODWIN

352pp Pb \$24.95

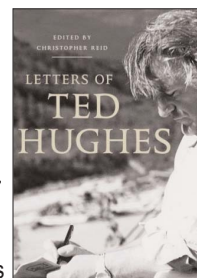
Godwin, an award-winning writer, is on assignment in Zululand when he is summoned by his mother to Zimbabwe, his birthplace. His father is seriously ill and his mother fears he is dying. Godwin finds his country, once a post-colonial success story, descending into a vortex of violence and racial hatred. His father recovers, but over the next few years Godwin travels regularly between his family life in Manhattan and the increasing chaos of Zimbabwe, with its rampant inflation and land seizures making famine a very real prospect. It is against this backdrop that Godwin discovers a 50-year-old family secret, one which changes everything he thought he knew about his father, and his own place in the world. *Due Jan*

## Letters of Ted Hughes

Ted HUGHES

800pp Hb \$75.00

At the outset of his career, Ted Hughes described letter-writing as "excellent training for conversation with the world" and he was to become a prolific master of this art, which combines writing and talking. This selection begins when Hughes was 17 and documents the course of a life at once resolutely private, but intensely attuned to other lives (including a readership comprising both adults and children); a life pared down to essentials, yet eventful, peripatetic and at times publicly controversial.



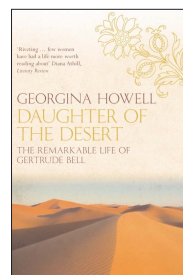
## Daughter of the Desert

### The Remarkable Life of Gertrude Bell

Georgina HOWELL

356pp Pb \$24.95

Archaeologist, spy, Arabist, linguist, author, poet, photographer, mountaineer and nation builder, Gertrude Bell was born in 1868 into a world of privilege and plenty, but she turned her back on all that for her passion for the Arab people, becoming the architect of the independent kingdom of Iraq and seeing its first king Faisal safely onto the throne in 1921. This is her story, vividly told and impeccably researched, drawing on her own writings, both published and unpublished. It is a compelling portrait of a woman who transcended the restrictions of her class and age and, in so doing, created a remarkable and enduring legacy.

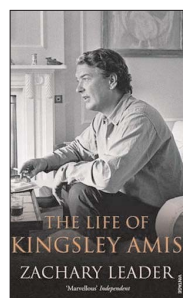


## The Life of Kingsley Amis

Zachary LEADER

1,008pp Pb \$32.95

In this authorised biography, 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 novelist, poet, critic and polemicist. Drawing not only on interviews with a range of Amis' friends, relatives, fellow writers, students and colleagues, many of them never before consulted, but also on 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. He explores Amis's fears and phobias, and the role that drink played in his life.



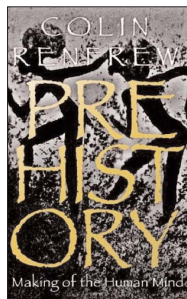


## Prehistory

### Making of the Human Mind

Colin RENFREW 256pp Hb \$45.00

Renfrew looks at current issues and problems in prehistory. He challenges the conventional assumption of an all-important 'human revolution' 40,000 years ago, when Homo sapiens first appeared in Europe, and suggests that the key developments were much later. His case studies range widely, from Orkney to the Balkans, from the Indus Valley to Peru, from Ireland to China, providing fresh insights even on such landmark monuments as the Egyptian pyramids and the Valley of the Kings, Stonehenge and the sacrificial burial pyramids at Teotihuacan in Mexico. The book ends with a fascinating chapter, the transition from Prehistory to History, and early writing systems. *Due Jan*



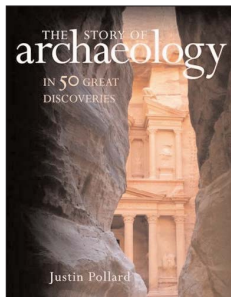
## The Story of Archaeology

### In 50 Great Discoveries

Justin POLLARD

256pp Hb \$45.00

Pollard tells the thrilling and fascinating tale of modern archaeology from its earliest beginnings to the present through 50 chronologically arranged profiles of iconic excavations - from the Dead Sea Scrolls to the Death Pit of Ur, from Machu Picchu to the Mary Rose, from Hoxne to Hallstatt. Some of these are discoveries of the swashbuckling type - lost tombs filled with precious artefacts - but others consist of bricks and pieces of flint and pottery that have, in the story they tell, proved to be yet rarer and more valuable. Broken pots and test tubes of ancient pollen can, after all, be just as much 'treasure' as the mask of Tutankhamun for they all tell a part of the story that helps us understand who we are and how we got here. *Due Jan*



## Passion for Egypt

### Arthur Weigall, Tutankhamun and the 'Curse of the Pharaohs'

Julie HANKEY

392pp Pb \$32.00

This book presents the acclaimed life story of one of the great Egyptologists of the last century. Arthur Weigall was Chief Inspector of Antiquities in Upper Egypt in its remarkable Edwardian heyday: a time of spectacular discoveries, most notably the tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922, but also one of a glittering European society centred on Luxor. Weigall's work brought contact with all the leading figures in Egyptian archaeology at the time, including Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter, with whom relations soon grew strained. He may (in the course of reporting for the London press on Carter's work at Tutankhamun's tomb) inadvertently have given rise to the enduring myth of 'The Curse of the Pharaohs'. But the story of Weigall, who did so much to popularise the study of ancient Egypt, is in many ways the story of the modern rediscovery of that forgotten world.

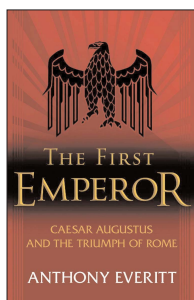
## The First Emperor

### Caesar Augustus and the Triumph of Rome

Anthony EVERITT

432pp Pb \$30.00

Caesar Augustus is one of the most fascinating figures in history. Plucked as a teenager from provincial obscurity by his great-uncle Julius Caesar, who adopted him posthumously in his will, Augustus transformed the chaotic Republic into an orderly imperial autocracy. His consolidation of the Roman Empire arguably laid the foundations of Europe. Although a sickly young man with a tendency to fall seriously ill in moments of crisis, Augustus taught himself to be brave and was intelligent, painstaking and patient. He worked extraordinarily hard and, within a generation, had rebuilt Rome, transforming it into a splendid metropolis and centre for civil government and the arts. In this dynamic and engaging biography, Everitt uncovers the deeply human character of this extraordinary man. *Due Jan*



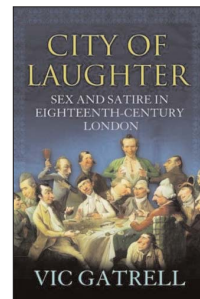
## City of Laughter

### Sex and Satire in Eighteenth Century London

Vic GATRELL

720pp Tp \$35.00

Between 1770 and 1830, London was the world's largest and richest city, the centre of hectic social ferment and spectacular sexual liberation. It prompted revolutionary modes of thought, novel sensibilities and constant debate about the relations between the sexes. It also stimulated outrageous behaviour, from James Boswell's copulating on Westminster Bridge to the Prince Regent's attempt to seduce a woman by pleading, sobbing and stabbing himself with a pen knife. And nowhere was London's lewdness and iconoclasm more vividly represented than in its satire. Combining words and images to offer a brilliantly original panorama of that time, this is a ground-breaking reappraisal of a period of seismic change and a unique account of the origins of our attitudes to sex, celebrity and satire today.



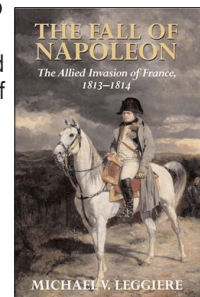
## The Fall of Napoleon Volume 1

### The Allied Invasion of France 1813-1814

Michael LEGGIERE

656pp Hb \$59.95

Crushing defeats in Russia (1812) and Germany (1813) caused the collapse of Napoleon's empire and brought his enemies to the Rhine River at the close of 1813. With a depleted and exhausted army, Napoleon attempted to direct the defence of his frontier from the Alps to the North Sea from Paris while he mobilised France. The new Prometheus watched helplessly as his marshals conducted a headlong retreat from the Rhine to the Marne in less than one month. The breakdown of the French command structure and overwhelming Allied superiority placed the French marshals charged with defending the Rhine in an impossible situation. Although Napoleon needed to use their scant forces to make a desperate stand on the Rhine and away from the administrative apparatus that fed his war machine, the marshals believed they had to trade land for time - the exact opposite of what Napoleon needed to maintain his crown. *Due Late Jan*

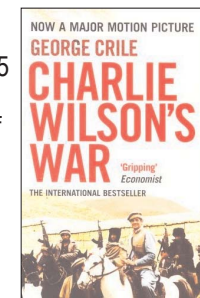


## Charlie Wilson's War

George CRILE

560pp Pb \$24.95

In the last decade, two events have transformed the world: the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rise of militant Islam. This is the first book to explain the link between these two occurrences. The author spent nearly a decade researching and writing this original account of the biggest, most expensive secret war in history: the arming of the Afghan resistance to Soviet occupation. Moving from the secret chambers in CIA headquarters to stand-offs in the Khyber Pass, this is one of the most thorough and vivid descriptions of CIA operations ever written. It is the missing chapter in the geopolitics of our time. *Due Jan*



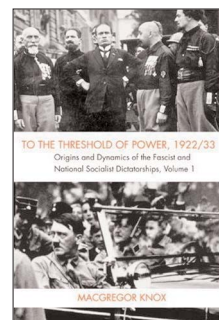
## To the Threshold of Power, 1922/33

### Origins and Dynamics of the Fascist and National Socialist Dictatorships Volume 1

Macgregor KNOX

448pp Pb \$39.95

This is the first volume of a two-part work that seeks to explain the origins and dynamics of the Fascist and National Socialist dictatorships. It lays a foundation for understanding the Nazi and Fascist regimes through parallel investigations of Italian and German society, institutions and national myths; the supreme test of WWI; and the post-1918 struggles from which the Fascist and National Socialist movements emerged. It emphasises two principal sources of movement: the nationalist mythology of the intellectuals and the institutional culture and agendas of the two armies, especially the Imperial German Army and its Reichswehr successor. The book's climax is the cataclysm of 1914-18 and the rise and triumph of militarily organised radical nationalist movements - Mussolini's Fasci di combattimento and Hitler's National Socialist German Workers' Party - dedicated to the perpetuation of the war and the overthrow of the post-1918 world order. *Due Jan*



**CAMBRIDGE**  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

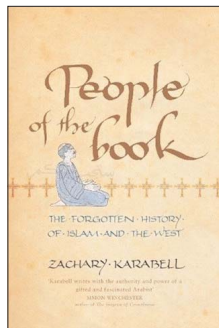
If you are after one of the fine titles from Cambridge University Press, please ask us first. We stock virtually all titles held by Cambridge in Australia, plus a few more!

## People of the Book

### The Forgotten History of Islam and the West

Zachary KARABELL 352pp Pb \$30.00

We live in a world polarised by the ongoing conflict between Muslims, Christians and Jews, but in an extraordinary narrative spanning 14 centuries, Karabell argues that the relationship between Islam and the West has never been simply one of animosity and competition, but has also comprised long periods of cooperation and coexistence. Through a rich tapestry of stories and a compelling cast of characters, Karabell takes the reader on an extraordinary journey through the Arab and Ottoman empires, the Crusades and the Catholic Reconquista and into the modern era, as he examines the vibrant examples of discord and concord that have existed between these monotheistic faiths. By historical standards, today's fissure between Islam and the West is not exceptional, but because of weapons of mass destruction, that fissure has the potential to undo us more than ever before. This is reason enough to look back and remember that Christians, Jews and Muslims have lived constructively with one another. They have fought and taught each other, and they have learned from one another. Retrieving this forgotten history is a vital ingredient to a more stable, secure world. *Due Jan*



## Sun Kings

Hywel WILLIAMS

256pp Hb \$45.00

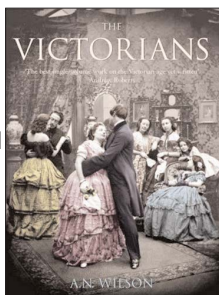
Over the last 3,000 years, the great 'sun kings' of history have dazzled the world with their ability to build empires and rule them absolutely, but equally, with their shows of excess and opulence. Experts in the public display of power, they have identified their own authority as the basis of their country's grandeur. From Ramses II raising the temples and statues of 13th century BC Egypt, and Charlemagne reviving Roman imperial glory for 9th century Europe, to Peter the Great's transformation of Russia into a Western power, and Napoleon's parcelling of Europe for his family, this book examines the lives and achievements of 50 magnificent rulers, while also providing a fascinating study of the changing role of kingship. *Due Jan*

## The Victorians

A N WILSON

352pp Hb \$79.95

Now in an illustrated edition, Wilson presents his magnificent portrait of this age alongside the many enthralling images of 19th century lives that he pieced together, telling a story that is still unfinished in our own day. This beautifully produced, large-format hardback contains over 150 illustrations, including photographs, paintings, drawings and cartoons from the age.



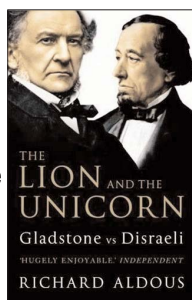
## The Lion and the Unicorn

### Gladstone vs Disraeli

Richard ALDOUS

384pp Pb \$49.95

Gladstone and Disraeli were the fiercest political rivals of the modern age, when Victorian Britain ruled the oceans and vast territories "on which the sun never set". The vitriolic duel between them was nothing less than a battle to lead the richest and most powerful nation on earth. To Disraeli, his antagonist was an "unprincipled maniac" characterised by an "extraordinary mixture of envy, vindictiveness, hypocrisy and superstition". For Gladstone, his rival was "The Grand Corrupter" whose destruction he plotted "day and night, week by week, month by month". Victorians were electrified by the confrontation. No wonder that, when Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking-Glass* appeared in 1871, so many readers recognised the great adversaries as the warring lion and unicorn "fighting for the crown". Aldous gives us the first modern telling of this dramatic story of an intense and momentous rivalry.



## What Goes Up

### An Anatomy of the 2007 General Election

Nicholas STUART

288pp Tp \$32.95

The 2007 general election wasn't just critical for the politicians. It has irrevocably placed Australia on a path for the future. The critical decisions that shaped the contest were taken in the lead-up to the poll first by the Liberals, when the party choose to stick with Howard; then by Labor, when its members decided to unite behind Rudd. *Due Jan*

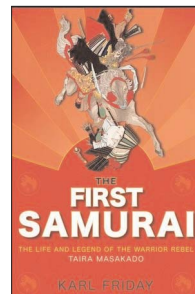
## The First Samurai

### The Life and Legend of the Warrior Rebel, Taira Masakado

Karl FRIDAY

240pp Hb \$33.95

This book presents a portrait of Japan's first significant samurai leader and his world. Was samurai warrior Taira Masakado a quixotic megalomaniac or a hero swept up by events beyond his control? Did he really declare himself to be the "New Emperor"? Did he suffer divine retribution for his ego and ambition? Filled with insurrections, tribal uprisings, pirate disturbances and natural disasters, this action-packed account of Masakado's insurrection offers a captivating introduction to the samurai, their role in 10th century society and the world outside the capital.



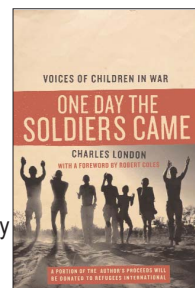
## One Day the Soldiers Came

### Voices of Children in War

Charles LONDON

336pp Pb \$28.00

Today there are 20 million children around the world who have been uprooted, orphaned or injured by war, famine or poverty. We see their faces on the nightly news, or staring at us from the pages of a magazine, but rarely, if ever, do we see them as more than helpless victims - they are innocent; they are suffering; they demand sympathy, outrage or action. But the reality of these children's lives is far more complex. They are singers, dancers, survivors, criminals, workers, parents, activists, athletes, soldiers and killers. As a young man in his early 20s, the author was given the rare opportunity, as a Research Associate for Refugees International, to live with and work with these children. In this book, he enters their world, celebrating their unique skills for survival and reflection. Through the stories and drawings of children from Congo, Burma, Kosovo, Sudan and Rwanda - the sites of some of the most violent upheavals of the past decade - we see the invisible narrative of the young as they experience, understand and are shaped by the conflicts around them.



## The New Guinea Diaries 1871-1883

N MIKLOUHO-MACLAY

280pp Hb \$39.95, Pb \$29.95

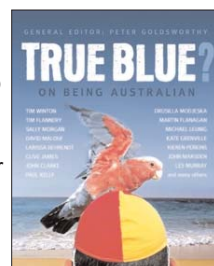
Pioneering ecologist and humanist Miklouho-Maclay lived at a time of great colonial and industrial expansion. He was a pupil of the German philosopher Ernst Haeckel. To prove that the people of all races are equally human, he went to the island of New Guinea in 1870, the first white man to do so, and stayed years with the native Papuans while the rest of the world presumed he had been eaten. He endeavoured to save the Papuans and their traditional culture, but died disillusioned at the age of 42. His diaries, originally edited with the help of Russian author Leo Tolstoy, provide an authentic portrait of a timeless, sustainable and egalitarian tribal society. Illustrated with original drawings made by the author on his New Guinean expedition. *Due Jan*

## True Blue?

### On Being Australian

Peter GOLDSWORTHY (Ed) 224pp Pb \$27.95

Australians mostly live in cities, yet many of our favourite movie characters are working men from the bush. We revere our sporting heroes, yet we prize their larrikin irreverence. Each year we enthusiastically commemorate a battle we lost. What makes us Australian? Why is it so hard to put a finger on what makes us unique? This anthology draws together novelists, journalists, poets, cultural icons, historians, commentators, photographers and painters - voices old and new voices - who reflect on the stories we tell about ourselves and the myths we cultivate. *Due Jan*



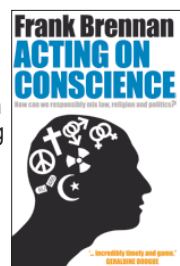
## Acting on Conscience

### How Can We Responsibly Mix Law, Religion and Politics?

Frank BRENNAN

280pp Pb \$23.95

Is there a place for personal beliefs in public life? Is a Catholic health minister in a fit position to legislate on women's issues such as the right to an abortion pill? When the prime minister invokes church leaders' support in going to war with Iraq, and those church leaders tacitly approve this, is there a moral issue at stake? Jesuit priest, human rights lawyer and academic Frank Brennan tackles these issues head on. He explores some of the legal, moral and ethical issues that capture the public imagination and critically examines the figures in public life that pass judgment on them.



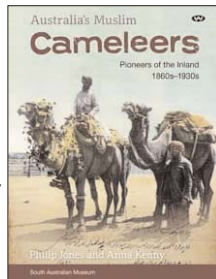


## Australia's Muslim Cameleers

### Pioneers of the Inland 1860s-1930s

Philip JONES & Anna KENNY 160pp Pb \$39.95

Between 1870 and 1920, as many as 2,000 cameleers and 20,000 camels arrived in Australia from Afghanistan and northern India. This is a rich pictorial history of these men, their way of life and the vital role they played in pioneering transport and communication routes across outback Australia's vast expanses. Many of the images and artefacts in this fascinating account are published here for the first time and the book contains a biographical listing of more than 1,200 cameleers.



## Australia 2050

### An Examination of Australia's Condition, Outlook and Options for the First Half of the 21st Century

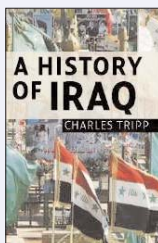
Future Directions International 346pp Pb \$34.95

Until now, Australians have never consciously and comprehensively outlined who they and their nation are and where, in specific historical terms, they wish to find themselves in the indefinite future. This landmark study of national significance seeks to provide Australia with a framework for responding to future challenges.

## From the Academic Presses

**A Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology** by William Smith is available at a special price for a limited time. **Normally \$1,283, it is now \$959.** Embracing the whole of ancient history and literature over more than 2,000 years, the three volumes provide a wealth of information on every significant figure mentioned by the Greek and Roman writers in the areas of history, philosophy, mathematics, the Arts, medicine, law, geography, architecture, etc. Includes a full account of the works and lives of the Greek and Roman writers.

The third edition of Charles Tripp's **A History of Iraq** (357pp Pb \$39.95) is now available. Since its first appearance in 2000, it has become a classic in the field of Middle East studies, read and admired by students, soldiers, policymakers and journalists. The book is now updated to include the recent American invasion, the fall and capture of Saddam Hussein, and the subsequent descent into civil strife.



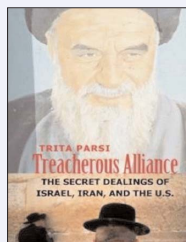
The writings of the Church Fathers form a distinct body of literature that shaped the early church and built upon the doctrinal foundations of Christianity established within the New Testament. Christian literature in the period c. 100 - c. 400 constitutes one of the most influential textual oeuvres of any religion. **The Cambridge History of Early Christian Literature** (538pp Pb \$59.95) edited by Frances Young, et al offers a systematic account of that literature and its setting.

The second and last volume of Heinrich Winkler's magisterial **Germany: The Long Road West** (685pp Hb \$120.00) has now arrived. It covers the period 1933-1990 and begins at the point of the collapse of the first German democracy, and ends with the reunification of East and West Germany. Winkler offers a brilliant synthesis of complex events and illuminates them with fresh insights. He analyses the decisions that shaped the country's triumphs and catastrophes, interweaving high politics with telling vignettes about the German people and their own self-perception. Volume 1, covering the period 1789-1933, is also available (\$120.00).

Also available is Eric Weitz's **Weimar Germany: Promise and Tragedy** (425pp Hb \$48.95). This comprehensive history recaptures the excitement and drama as it unfolded, viewing Weimar in its own right and not as a mere prelude to the Nazi era.

**Rome and Persia in Late Antiquity** (347pp Pb \$59.95) by Beate Dignas and Englebert Winter provides a narrative of the relationship between the Sasanian Empire in Persia and the Romans. The political goals of the two sides, their military confrontations and their diplomatic solutions are discussed, as well as the common interests between the two powers. Special attention is given to the situation of Arabia and Armenia, to economic aspects, protection of the frontiers, religious life in both empires and channels of communication between East and West.

Trita Parsi's **Treacherous Alliance** (361pp Hb \$56.00) traces the shifting relations among Israel, Iran and the United States from 1948 to the present, uncovering for the first time the details of secret alliances, treacherous acts and unsavoury political manoeuvrings that have undermined Middle Eastern stability and disrupted US foreign policy initiatives in the region.



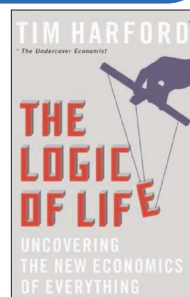
**Visions of Victory** (292pp Pb \$34.95) by Gerhard Weinberg explores the views of eight leaders of the major powers of WWII - Hitler, Mussolini, Tojo, Chiang Kai-shek, Stalin, Churchill, de Gaulle and Roosevelt. He compares their visions of the future in the event of victory. While the leaders primarily focused on fighting and winning the war, their decisions were often shaped by their aspirations for the future. What emerges is a startling picture of post-war worlds. *Dave*

## The Logic of Life

### Uncovering the New Economics of Everything

Tim HARFORD 288pp Tp \$35.00

**The Undercover Economist** (Pb \$27.95) showed how ordinary economics explained everyday curiosities, such as the price of a cup of coffee or the traffic jam on the way to the supermarket. Here Harford shows how the new economics of rational choice theory explains much more. Drug addicts and teenage muggers can be rational. Suburban sprawl and inner city decay are rational. Endless meetings at the office and the injustices of working life? Rational. Economics explains why your boss is overpaid, whether we should build more prisons, and whether a city like New Orleans can recover from disaster. The book starts with the most intimate decisions - to have sex, to take drugs, to lead an honest life - then zooms out to discuss the logic of the family, neighbourhoods, large corporations and cities themselves. This is the new economics of everything you never thought was economics. It will help you see the world in a new way. *Due Jan*



## Gandhi on Non-Violence

### A Selection from the Writings of Mahatma Gandhi

Mahatma GANDHI, Thomas MERTON (Ed) Pb \$18.95

In this book, Merton has selected the basic statements of principle and interpretation that make up Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence (AHIMSA) and non-violent action (SATYAGRAHA). The Gandhi text follows that established by the Navajivan Trust with sections dealing with Principles of non-violence; Non-violence, true and false; Spiritual dimensions of non-violence; The political scope of non-violence; and The purity of non-violence. *Due Jan*

## Good and Bad Power

### The Ideals and Betrayals of Government

Geoff MULGAN 240pp Pb \$26.95

How can we make the governments on which we depend for our welfare and survival behave like servants, rather than masters? This is the oldest question in politics. It has been grappled with, but never satisfactorily answered, for thousands of years. In much of the world, states remain oppressive, secretive and violent. It is no surprise that so much recent political theory has been concerned with how to protect people from dangerous states. Yet the only things as bad as states that are too strong are states that are too weak. The old democracies of Western Europe and North America have achieved a rough balance between being too strong and too weak, yet still suffer from constant crises of moral purpose. There is a growing trend of anti-politics, manifest in falling turnouts and party membership, and a growing assumption that politicians represent the worst venality, rather than the highest ideals. Something has gone badly wrong in our relationship with power. This book explains why we have arrived at this point, what can be done to change the world, and how the power of governments can be used for good. *Due Jan*



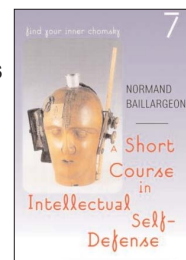
## A Short Course in Intellectual Self-Defense

### Find Your Inner Chomsky

Normand BAILLARGEON

272pp Pb \$27.00

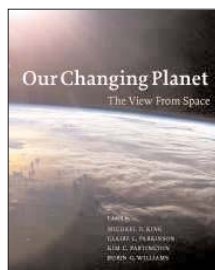
"My personal feeling is that citizens of the democratic societies should undertake a course of intellectual self-defense to protect themselves from manipulation and control, and to lay the basis for more meaningful democracy." - Noam Chomsky. What is the relationship between democracy and critical thinking? What must a citizen in a democracy know to make the word democracy meaningful? Baillargeon trains readers to think, deconstruct and ask the necessary questions to protect themselves from the manipulations of government, 'authorities' and other elites. Whether the issue be the call to what we're told will be a bloodless war, the 'debate' around Intelligent Design, understanding a government military expenditure or simply reading the news, Baillargeon teaches readers to evaluate information and sort fact from official and media spin.



## Our Changing Planet The View from Space

Michael KING (et al) 400pp Hb \$69.95

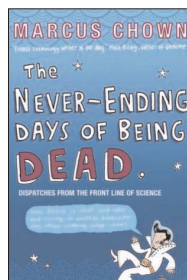
For over 40 years, satellites have been orbiting the Earth quietly monitoring the state of our planet. Unseen by most of us, they are providing information on the many changes taking place, from movements in the land and volcanic eruptions, to human-caused changes such as the growth of cities, deforestation and the spread of pollutants in the atmosphere and oceans. Led by four editors, with support from a production team at NASA Goddard Space Flight Centre, many of the world's top remote sensing scientists showcase some spectacular and beautiful satellite imagery along with informed essays on the science behind these images and the implications of what is shown. *Due Late Jan*



## The Never-Ending Days of Being Dead Dispatches from the Front Line of Science

Marcus CHOWN 336pp Pb \$24.95

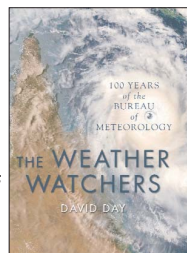
What happens when you die? According to one prominent physicist, you will be instantaneously resurrected, despite trillions upon trillions of years having passed, in the dying days of the Universe. Stretching before you will be a subjective eternity of existence: the never-ending days of being dead... In this superbly readable book, this is just one of the strange but wonderful scientific ideas, each from the mind of one of the world's most daring and imaginative scientists.



## The Weather Watchers 100 Years of the Bureau of Meteorology

David DAY Hb \$49.95

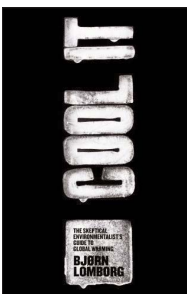
Australia's capricious climate has tested its inhabitants for centuries. For a colony of farmers, knowing what the weather might bring was a matter of great importance. This title brings to life the history of the Bureau of Meteorology, from its inception in 1907 to the modern day. *Due Jan*



## Cool It The Skeptical Environmentalist's Guide to Global Warming

Bjorn LOMBORG 256pp Hb \$39.95

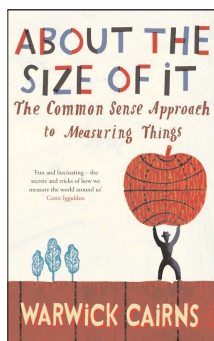
Global warming has become one of the permanent concerns of our time, with ever stronger calls to combat it via drastic programs such as the Kyoto Protocol. Global warming is happening. It is a serious and important problem and we need to deal with it in a responsible way. But in order to do so effectively, Lomborg argues we need to look at the costs and benefits of the proposed measures. He argues that climate change is a 100-year problem, so we should not try to fix it in 10 years and that drastic, here-and-now measures are the worst way to spend our money.



## About the Size of it The Common Sense Approach to Measuring Things

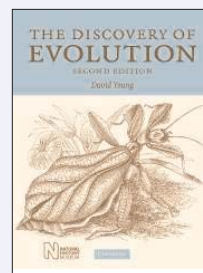
Warwick CAIRNS 150pp Hb \$35.00

This is a serious, but seriously funny, book about measuring things. Find out why the size of a space shuttle's fuel tanks has more to do with the proportions of a horse's rump than rocket science, and how much you can hold in one hand while doing something else. These are all essential principles that explain how man has balanced and judged his world since the dawn of time. In part a case for the continued use of traditional British measures, this book also celebrates the richness and commonality of systems from around the world, and how they were formed by the one guiding principle of measurement no one ever mentions: that most of us have better things to think about!

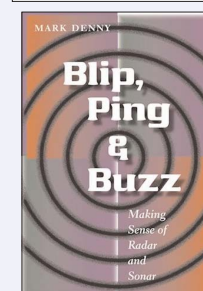


The greatly expanded third edition of **Numerical Recipes: The Art of Scientific Computing** (1256pp Hb \$150.00) provides easy access to the latest methods in scientific computing, with wider coverage than ever before, plus many new, expanded and updated sections and two completely new chapters. The executable C++ code, now printed in colour for easy reading, adopts an object-oriented style particularly suited to scientific applications. Also available is a CD-ROM containing the source code (\$150.00).

The second edition of **The Discovery of Evolution** (352pp Pb \$75.00) by David Young explains what the theory of evolution is all about by providing a historical narrative of discovery. Beginning with the emergence of the early naturalists in the 17th century, the scientific discoveries that led up to and then flowed from Darwin and Wallace's theory of evolution by natural selection are then discussed, and finally the modern evolutionary studies at the close of the 20th century are detailed.



In **Blip, Ping & Buzz: Making Sense of Radar and Sonar** (274pp Hb \$43.95), Mark Denny weaves history and basic science to reveal the world of radar and sonar to the curious reader, technology buff and expert alike. He begins with an early history of the Chain Home radar system used WWII, then provides accessible and engaging explanations of the physics that make signal processing possible. Simple diagrams and formulas show how electromagnetic and sound waves are transmitted, received and converted into images, allowing you to literally see in the dark.



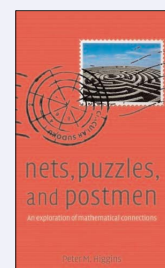
**The Mathematics of Egypt, Mesopotamia, China, India and Islam: A Sourcebook** (685pp Hb \$126.00) edited by Victor Katz is the first book to provide a substantial collection of English translations of key mathematical texts from the five most important ancient and medieval non-Western mathematical cultures, and to put them into full historical and mathematical context. Addressing a critical gap in the mathematics literature in English, this book is an essential resource for anyone with at least an undergraduate degree in mathematics who wants to learn about non-Western mathematical developments and how they helped shape and enrich world mathematics.

**Smoot's Ear: The Measure of Humanity** (249pp Hb \$49.95) by Robert Tavernor offers a fascinating account of the various measuring systems human beings have devised over two millennia. The book explores changing attitudes toward measure, focusing on key moments in art, sculpture, architecture, philosophy and the development of scientific thought. It encompasses the journey of Western civilisation from the construction of the Great Pyramid to the first manned flight to the moon.

**Copernicus' Secret** (239pp Hb \$50.00) by Jack Repcheck recreates the life and world of the scientific genius whose work revolutionised astronomy and altered our understanding of our place in the world. It tells the surprising, little-known story behind the dawn of the scientific age.

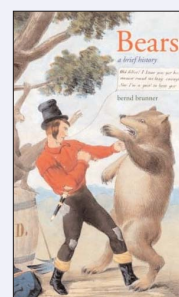
In **The Age of Everything: How Science Explores the Past** (249pp Hb \$49.95), Matthew Hedman shows how scientists have determined the age of everything from the colonisation of the New World over 13,000 years ago to the age of the universe, which is nearly 14 billion years old. Covering a wide range of time scales, from the big bang to human history, this provocative and far-ranging look at how science has determined the age of everything from modern mammals to the oldest stars will be indispensable for all armchair time travellers.

Only relatively recently have mathematicians begun to explore networks and connections, and their importance has taken everyone by surprise. The mathematics of networks form the basis of many fascinating puzzles and problems, from tic-tac-toe and circular sudoku to the 'Chinese Postman Problem' (can he deliver all his letters without traversing the same street twice?). In **Nets, Puzzles and Postmen** (247pp Hb \$49.95), Peter Higgins shows how such puzzles, as well as many real-world phenomena, are underpinned by the same deep mathematical structure. Understanding mathematical networks can give us remarkable new insights into them all.



**Bears: A Brief History** (259pp Hb \$49.95) examines the shared history of people and bears. Roaming through history, literature and science, Bernd Brunner presents a rich compendium of the interactions between the two species and explores how bears have become central figures in our inventory of myths and dreams. He reveals the remarkable extent to which human feelings about bears have been, and still are, mixed.

Dave



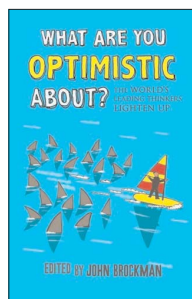


## What are You Optimistic About?

### The World's Leading Thinkers Lighten Up

John BROCKMAN (Ed) 374pp Hb \$29.95

Last year the leading online forum for scientists and thinkers - [www.edge.org](http://www.edge.org) - issued their third annual question: "What are you optimistic about, and why?" As with its predecessors - "What do you believe to be true but cannot prove?" and "What is your dangerous idea?" - this question created an instant media storm, with global reaction to the answers posted by some of the world's most eminent scientists and thinkers. Featuring responses from Richard Dawkins, Brian Eno, Steven Pinker, Sir Martin Rees and Matt Ridley, and covering topics as diverse as the decline of violence, the path to enlightenment and mankind's enduring ability to solve problems, this collection is guaranteed to make you look on the bright side.



## I Am, Therefore I Think

### Philosophers Answer Your Questions About Love, Nothingness and Everything Else...

Alexander GEORGE (Ed) 272pp Pb \$25.00

What is it like to be another person? Why is stupidity not painful? Is it ever possible for a human to do a selfless act? Do chimpanzees really enjoy eating bananas? How can an exception ever prove a rule? Everyone confronts philosophical issues, so why shouldn't everyone have access to a philosopher? In this wise and witty book, 40 philosophers from universities around the world answer real readers' most difficult questions. They address dilemmas and queries on every subject, from adultery and the afterlife to ethics and existentialism, God, sex, suicide and war. They even address the question, "Why can't philosophers agree?" This is an entertaining and jargon-free exploration of the philosophy of everyday life.

*Due Jan*

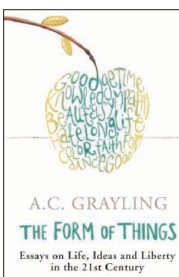


## The Form of Things

### Essays on Life, Ideas and Liberty in the 21st Century

A C GRAYLING 256pp Pb \$24.95

"Grief and loneliness, depression, despair and failure - those things are the common human lot, at least at times, in all our lives." Yet it is philosophy which, while not providing an answer to these problems, can enable us to prepare for them and create strategies to deal with them. This is the fifth in a series of essays from Grayling, reflecting upon the form of our world and its multiplicity. The essays are grouped by theme into reflections upon life and the standards we live by, including vivid polemics and perceptive pieces on significant thinkers, contemporary rights and liberties issues. *Due Jan*



## The Choice of Hercules

### Pleasure, Duty and the Good Life in the 21st Century

A C GRAYLING 192pp Hb \$35.00

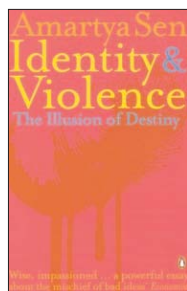
Duty or Pleasure? This was the legendary choice which faced Hercules and which pre-eminent philosopher Grayling uses as the starting point of his masterful new book. He shows us how much more people can understand about themselves and their world by reflecting on today's moral challenges. Above all, he explores the idea that certain demands and pleasures are necessary, not just because of their intrinsic merits, but because of what they do for each other. The Good Life or the good life? With exceptional clarity and unrivalled prose, Grayling addresses the everyday ethical choices confronting us all. *Due Jan*

## Identity and Violence

### The Illusion of Destiny

Amartya SEN 240pp Pb \$24.95

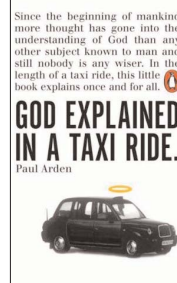
Nobel Laureate Sen argues in his new book that conflict and violence are sustained today, no less than the past, but by the illusion of a unique identity. Indeed, the world is increasingly taken to be divided between religions - or 'cultures' or 'civilisations' - ignoring the relevance of other ways in which people see themselves through class, gender, profession, language, literature, science, music, morals or politics, and denying the real possibilities of reasoned choices. He overturns such stereotypes as the 'the monolithic Middle East' or 'the Western Mind'. Through his penetrating investigation of such subjects as multiculturalism, fundamentalism, terrorism and globalisation, he brings out the need for a clear-headed understanding of human freedom and a constructive public voice in global civil society. *Due Jan*



## God Explained in a Taxi Ride

Paul ARDEN 128pp Pb \$22.95

This is a punchy, humorous and probing look at the nature of religious belief by the author of the massively successful *Whatever You Think, Think the Opposite* (Pb \$19.95). In a series of brilliant visual episodes, Arden investigates the questions that have persisted since our earliest days. As ever, he is a master of compression, getting us to scratch our heads as he examines our relationship to the divine.



## In Praise of Prejudice

### The Necessity of Preconceived Ideas

Theodore DALRYMPLE 200pp Hb \$34.95

"Prejudice," wrote Edmund Burke, "renders a man's virtue his habit." How strange that sounds to modern ears! In recent times, the word "prejudice" has come to seem synonymous with bigotry. Racial prejudice is taken to be typical of prejudice in general, and therefore the only way in which a person can establish his freedom from bigotry is by claiming to have wiped his mind free from prejudice altogether. In this wise and sprightly book, Dalrymple shows that this is impossible. It is impossible because no one can keep his mind as a blank slate on all questions until those questions are examined one by one. He also shows that the attempt to free oneself entirely from prejudice has several bad consequences, both for the person who makes the claim and for society as a whole.

## Language

## The Language Report

### English on the Move, 2000-2007 #5

Susie DENT 176pp Pb \$34.95

This fifth *Language Report* not only takes a historical long view, comparing the state of English 100 years ago with the present day, but also includes a smaller retrospective snapshot of the last five years to reveal new beginnings in the language's evolution, as well as concentrated examples of continuing long-term change. Both approaches provide an excellent vantage point from which to take a predictive look at English in the future. Includes chapters on new areas in which English is developing in interesting ways (such as the language used in the advertising of cosmetics in 2005). The celebratory 2007 edition will continue to broaden the survey, taking in for example the language of food and drink, advertising and marketing, and the influence of celebrity culture. *Due Jan*



## The Myth of Mars and Venus

### Do Men and Women Really Speak Different Languages?

Deborah CAMERON 208pp Hb \$34.95

Popular assumptions about gender and communication - famously summed up in the title of the massively influential 1992 bestseller *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus* (Pb \$32.95) - can have unforeseen but far-reaching consequences in many spheres of life, from attitudes to the phenomenon of 'date rape' to expectations of achievement at school and potential discrimination in the workplace. Deborah Cameron is the Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communication at Oxford University and author of a number of leading texts in the field of language and gender studies. In this wide-ranging and thoroughly readable book, she draws on over 30 years of scientific research to explain what we really know and demonstrates how this is often very different from accounts in recent popular writing.



## A Banquet of Books

John CLARK 80pp Pb \$19.95

The National Library of Australia contains some rare and wonderful books that have been made here and around the world. This beautiful little volume showcases some of the most interesting and impressive books from this collection. Each spread details the history on one page, with a full-page illustration on the facing page. Fascinating. *Christian*

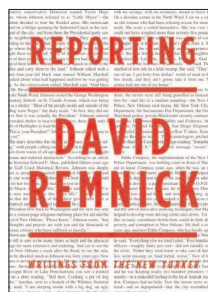


## Reporting

### Writings from *The New Yorker*

David REMNICK 496pp Pb \$24.95

Remnick is a man much praised for his powers of observation, description and analysis, and this contains his very best pieces from the last 15 years. Here is Remnick on Don DeLillo, Philip Roth and The Sopranos, Solzhenitsyn returning to Russia after nearly 20 years in exile, and on the failure of democracy in Mubarak's Egypt. "Remnick is a phenomenon. He has not only edited the magazine with serene efficiency for the past eight years; he has written for it a series of long, meticulously researched articles that have been gathered together in this hefty volume. And they are all excellent." - *Daily Telegraph*

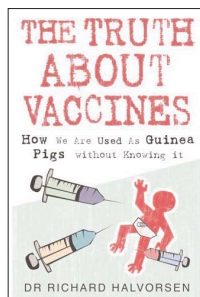


## The Truth About Vaccines

### How We are Used as Guinea Pigs Without Knowing it

Richard HALVORSEN 304pp Pb \$29.95

We no longer entirely trust what we are being told by medical experts, particularly when vaccines are concerned. Once the pinnacle of medical achievement, vaccines are denting our belief in medicine. As was the case with BSE, we lurch from scare to scare, while government action appears to increase the confusion, rather than resolve it. In a series of investigations to get to the heart of the matter, Halvorsen speaks to health officials, researchers, fellow GPs and parents to uncover the truth about vaccines. In an alarming pattern of discovery, he finds that GPs are not giving accurate information and often live in fear of being seen to criticise. Medical researchers often find that impartial research is not allowed and pharmaceutical companies, hungry for new areas from which to profit, have discovered vaccines using fear as their marketing tool.

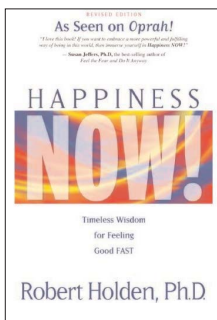


## Happiness Now!

### Timeless Wisdom for Feeling Good Fast

Robert HOLDEN 255pp Hb \$26.95

This is a truly powerful and radical exploration of one of life's most treasured goals. Holden offers a message of profound hope and healing for a generation that is often too busy chasing happiness to be truly happy. He presents a personal, warm and entertaining account of how he developed his pioneering work with The Happiness Project. Using a highly creative mix of stories, exercises, meditations, poetry and prayer, he shares his distinctive philosophy and practice of the how of happiness. *Due Jan*

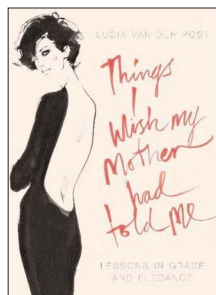


## Things I Wish My Mother Had Told Me

### Lessons in Grace and Elegance

Lucia VAN DER POST 496pp Hb \$39.95

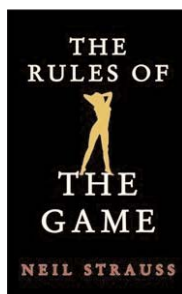
Packed full of golden rules from one of Britain's most stylish women, this is a woman's companion for life. Practical health and beauty tips help you choose a sophisticated scent, get fitter and decide whether cosmetic surgery is for you. Once you've mastered looking fantastic, learn how to add some elegance to other areas of your life. Discover great shortcuts to entertaining your guests, as well as suggestions from designers around the world on how to make your home match the elegant new you.



## The Rules of the Game

Neil STRAUSS 448pp Pb \$34.95

In *The Game* (Pb \$24.95), Strauss delved into the secret world of 'Pick up Artists', men who have created a science out of the art of seduction. Not only did he reveal the techniques that they had developed, but he became a master of the Game. In this follow-up, Strauss outlines the secret of landing the woman of your dreams from the best of the best. Taking it one day at a time, the challenge is to confront your insecurities and overcome them through a process of rigorous self-examination, briefings and field missions.

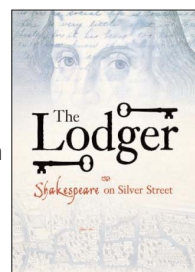


## The Lodger

### Shakespeare on Silver Street

Charles NICHOLL 400pp Hb \$49.95

"One Mr Shakespeare that lay in the house..." In 1612, Shakespeare gave evidence at the Court of Requests in Westminster, the only occasion his spoken words are recorded. The case seems routine, a dispute over an unpaid marriage-dowry, but it opens up an unexpected window into the dramatist's famously obscure life story. Nicholl applies a powerful biographical magnifying glass to this fascinating episode in Shakespeare's life. Marshalling evidence from a wide variety of sources, including previously unknown documentary material on the Mountjoys, he conjures up a detailed and compelling description of the circumstances in which Shakespeare lived and worked, and in which he wrote such plays as *Othello*, *Measure for Measure* and *King Lear*.



## But Wait, There's More...

### A History of Australian Advertising 1900-2000

Robert CRAWFORD 224pp Tp \$34.95

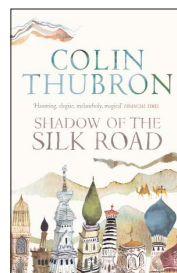
Although such phrases as "You oughta be congratulated" and "Not happy, Jan" are instantly recognisable to Australian consumers, the individuals and industry responsible for them have remained largely anonymous. This is the first detailed history of the Australian advertising industry, exploring its development over the course of the 20th century from a disorganised group of individuals selling newspaper space to the multi-billion dollar enterprise now run by giant transnationals. By examining the forces and influences underpinning this rise, Crawford provides a unique insight into the place of advertising in Australian society and its often hidden influences on the way we live. *Due Jan*



## Shadow of the Silk Road

Colin THUBRON 384pp Pb \$24.95

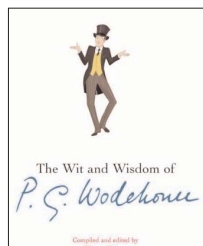
On buses, donkey carts, trains, jeeps and camels, Thubron traces the drifts of the first great trade route out of the heart of China into the mountains of Central Asia, across northern Afghanistan and the plains of Iran into Kurdish Turkey. Covering over 7,000 miles in eight months, Thubron recounts in inimitable prose his extraordinary adventures - a near-miss with a drunk driver, incarceration in a Chinese cell during the SARS epidemic, undergoing root canal treatment without anaesthetic in Iran...



## The Wit and Wisdom of P G Wodehouse

Tony RING 128pp Hb \$32.95

Ring, the president of the Wodehouse Association and author of the 600,000-word Millennium Wodehouse Concordance, has drawn on his extensive knowledge and even more wonderful enthusiasm to compile an absolutely cracking anthology. Here are not only witty epigrams we all know and love (and perhaps lots we don't!) but also longer humorous extracts which are full of wisdom.

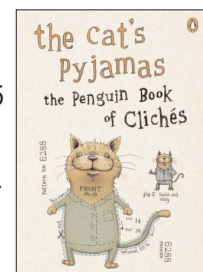


## The Cat's Pyjamas

### The Penguin Book of Clichés

Julia CRESSWELL 416pp Pb \$24.95

This is a fascinating, thematic exploration of clichés from as the actress said to the bishop to zero hour, explaining what they are and where they've come from. Cresswell has taken her best-selling dictionary of clichés back to the drawing board and has created a book, packed with famous (and infamous) quotations and memorable information that will change the way you see English.

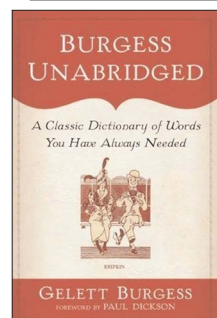


## Burgess Unabridged

### A Classic Dictionary of Words You Have Always Needed

Gelett BURGESS 160pp Hb \$19.95

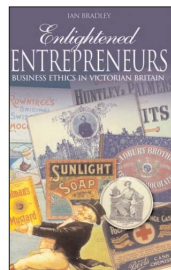
The classic dictionary of invented words, coined by one of America's comic geniuses. The perfect book for language lovers everywhere. *Due Jan*



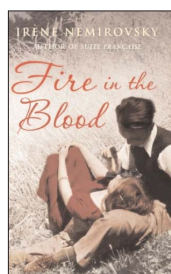


I've got another children's book to add to my personal shelf. Yet again, it is one I think adults will like more than the children will - just like Shaun Tan's **The Lost Thing** (\$15.95). Jane found it when she was home in September and included it in the parcel of books she sent to the Karen Refugee camps in Thailand. It is by Oliver Jeffers and is called **The Incredible Book-Eating Boy** (\$15 large picture paperback). Henry loves to eat books and gets smarter and smarter all the time, until he eats too many and gets all jumbled up. Someone suggests he read them instead and he finds he gets even smarter! But there is still a little nibble out of the corner of the last two pages!

Here's a good book for some. I thoroughly enjoyed it. **Enlightened Entrepreneurs: Business Ethics in Victorian Britain** by Ian Bradley (\$26.95 Pb 210pp incl index). He discusses 10 enormously successful businessmen who also possessed a social conscience, from Thomas Holloway to William Hesketh Lever. Many of them were Quakers and we've all heard of Cadbury and Rowntree, but I'd never thought of Colman in this way and never heard of Sir Titus Salt. Of course, it was very paternalistic, but what's wrong with that! If you were planning a driving tour of Britain, this would be an excellent addition to your luggage because you will discover some very interesting places and memorials to visit which will not be on the usual tourist list.

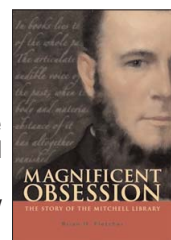


I am sure everyone who read **Suite Francaise** by Irene Nemirovsky (\$23.95 Pb) loved it. I certainly did. So I was quick to read another 'unfinished' novel which has been found by her descendants and the publishers. This is **Fire in the Blood** (\$29.95 Hb 153pp), set in the same French village. I read it in full right away and, although not entirely perfect, the first sections are marvellous. Don't miss it. I also recommend **Le Bal and Snow in Autumn** (\$19.95 Pb 106pp), which contains two novellas, one viciously showing an adolescent's dislike of her selfish mother, and the other describing the life of a devoted servant of Russian aristocrats as they left Russia for Paris. As in Andre Makine's stories, there is an awful lot of watching and waiting in Russian stories.

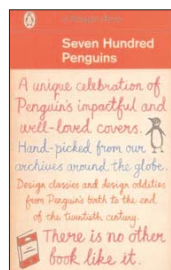


I was interested to read late last year that one of the rare maps made by First Century geographer Ptolemy, which had been cut out of 15th century books in the Spanish National Library, had been tracked down in Australia to be returned. We have a very different copy of some of these first serious attempts to describe the world in the Dover edition of **The Geography** by Claudius Ptolemy (\$43 large paperback with 14 illustrations and 29 maps). This is a copy of the first English edition published in 1932 by the New York Public Library. Find this in Roman History because, although a Greek, he did most of his work in Roman Egypt. There is also a dual-language edition in the Greek Loeb's **Tetrabiblos** (\$49.95 Hb), which is Four Books of Astrology.

Sydneysiders, booksellers and collectors will enjoy **Magnificent Obsession: The Story of the Mitchell Library** by Brian Fletcher (\$59.95 Hb). David Scott Mitchell's initial bequest of 40,000 books in 1907 has now expanded to more than 600,000 books and you can be sure lots of obsessed people have been involved. Have you read the excellent biography of the first female Mitchell Librarian, in 1932? **Ida Leeson: A Life - Not a Bluestocking Lady** by Sylvia Martin (\$29.95 Tp 256pp). Put the two together.



Penguin aficionados like myself simply must have a big fat paperback called **Seven Hundred Penguins** (\$49.95 Pb 714pp), which displays a selection of those covers we loved and remember. What memories! Fortunately the index at the back states the year each cover was published. The choice was made by staff in Penguin offices around the world, so you will see some good ones from Australia.

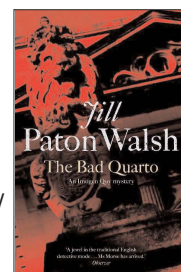


There is usually something new in our Music section and I want to especially recommend to you a book by Graeme Skinner called **Peter Sculthorpe: The Making of an Australian Composer** (\$59.95 Hb). We like not only the music but the man as well and this definitive biography will show it all.

I went to see the fabulous satirical show **Keating: The Musical** at the Seymour Centre. It is due back in Sydney again next July, so if you haven't seen it, don't miss it. I notice we have had a renewed demand for Don Watson's **Recollections of a Bleeding Heart: A Portrait of Paul Keating PM**, currently unavailable, but a new edition is due in March (\$24.95 Pb).

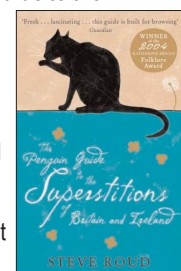
Thinking about the continued search to find a suitable aristocratic person to be Shakespeare, Chris Scott decided that he must have been a collaborationist (not a collaborator). I noticed in the October *Australian Literary Review* (first Wednesday of each month in *The Australian*) a letter from C O Morgan in Queensland who suggests the Ladies in Waiting of Queen Elizabeth, a group of intelligent young women with much idle time who would need a budding presenter of plays to be their front man. Nice eh? And later a friend told me a nice bit of trivia... Queen Mary (as in Bloody Mary) had a female jester. Keep an eye on our Shakespeare Studies section as there is usually something new. That's also where we keep the CDs and cassettes of the sonnets and various plays, so for instance you can have a 3 x CD set of **Antony and Cleopatra** (\$34.95) introduced by the former Director of the National Theatre, including a booklet with a scene-by-scene synopsis.

Jill Paton Walsh is one of my favourite fiction writers. Always reliable, always interesting and she also writes crime fiction. Her detective is Imogen Quay, a College Nurse at Cambridge University. I pounced on the B format of her latest, which is Number 4 in the series. It is called **The Bad Quarto** (\$22.95 Pb 269pp), where Imogen solves the mystery of the death of a daredevil, brilliant lecturer, while in the background an amateur play group stages an obscure version of Hamlet. Her other titles in this series are **The Wyndham Case** (\$22), which is due back in stock in February, **A Piece of Justice** (\$22.95) and **Debts of Dishonour** (\$19.95). Nice English crime, violence-free. I often recommend one of her books **A Desert in Bohemia** (\$23.95 Pb), which deals with the upheaval in the lives of people in Eastern Europe during the Communist era after the Second World War. This is a story many people do not know and the children of migrants from these countries would find it not only entertaining but interesting as well.



I enjoyed the film *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, especially the gorgeous gowns and wigs. A new outfit every day, it seemed! As Sir Francis and John Dee appeared to be the only courtiers consulted by Elizabeth, I searched out a couple of books about this pair. A new arrival is **Sir Francis Walsingham: Courtier in an Age of Terror** (\$49.95 Hb) by Derek Wilson. We have reordered on indent Benjamin Woolley's **Queen's Conjurer** (\$24.95), which is about John Dee, but in our 'Religion: Other' section I found a Cambridge University Press title, **John Dee's Conversations with Angels: Cabala, Alchemy and the End of Nature** by Deborah Harkness (\$75 Pb 252pp incl index).

Also in the Religion Other section is a new edition, after 30 years, of **Drawing Down the Moon: Witches, Druids, Goddess-Worshippers and Other Pagans in America** by Margot Adler (\$27.95 Pb 646pp incl index). This fascinating book is about Neo Pagan subculture and various non-authoritarian sects which believe there is no one single path to divinity. Religion: Other is at the bottom of the Mythology section and is sometimes overlooked, so I picked out some other titles from this section: Steve Roud is the author of two similar, but different, books. **Penguin Guide to the Superstitions of Britain and Ireland** (\$26.95 Pb 546pp incl index) and **Pocket Guide to the Superstitions of the British Isles** (\$29.95 Tp 278pp incl index). Of course, this is where you will find the old staples: Robert Graves' **The White Goddess** (\$32.95 Pb) and Joseph Campbell's **Hero with a Thousand Faces** (\$24.95 Pb). I can scarcely refrain from saying that these sorts of titles and our huge range of backlist titles are just the sort of books which make Abbey's different, although if you want more in the way of esoteric religions you should visit Adyar Bookshop in Clarence Street, just behind us.



The hardworking linguists in Language Book Centre have completed the 2008 SECONDARY & TERTIARY LOTE CATALOGUE, which is now available. 104 pages divided between Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Spanish and Teacher's Reference with good reviews of the books and materials. Not just a list. If you are not on the mailing list and would like a copy, please ring (02) 9267 1397 or 1800 802 432 (outside Sydney) or email [language@abbey.com.au](mailto:language@abbey.com.au) and ask for one to be sent to you. Or simply visit [www.language@abbey.com.au](http://www.language@abbey.com.au) (Resources > Catalogues), where you can download a PDF of either the full catalogue or just the language of interest to you. Best of all, drop in and pick one up and have another look at the wonderful range in this special bookshop. They have over 100 languages all under one roof. Perhaps we should call it Babel?

Keep well, enjoy the year ahead. There are lots of good books to read.

Eve

# Abbey's Bestsellers December 2007

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**Editor:** Ann Leahy  
**Contributors:** Eve Abbey, David Hall, Christian Hummelshoj, Lindy Jones & Ann Leahy.

Binding Key	
Pb	Paperback
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Lp	Large paperback (very large)
Hb	Hardback
Lh	Large hardback (very large)
Ca	Cassettes

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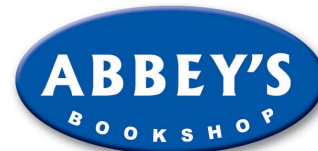
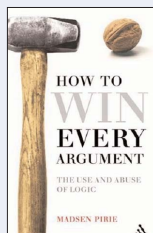
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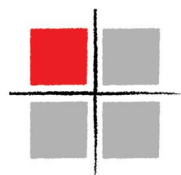


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