

A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

ABBEY'S ADVOCATE

1968 Celebrating 40 Years of Independent Bookselling 2008

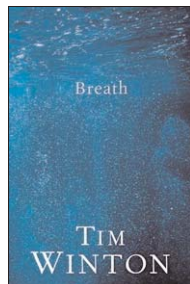
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Breath

Tim WINTON

224pp Hb \$45.00

Tim Winton's new novel tells the story of paramedic Bruce Pike who, upon attending a supposed suicide of a young man, begins to reflect on his own youth. As well as Pike, we met his friend Loonie and their idolisation of an older surfer, Sando. It is through Sando that Pike meets Eva and it is the consequences of this relationship that moulds Pike's future. When reading this, I found myself referencing films such as *Big Wednesday* and *Summer of '42* more than other novels. Winton shows how the events of our youth can only reveal their true meaning upon reflection, and it is the ramifications of these incidences that shape our present psyche. Although this novel may not scale the same thematic heights as *Cloudstreet* (\$26.95), the beauty of this novel is to sympathise with its characters, exposing the fragility of teenage friendships and highlighting the human frailties that reside in us all. *Greg Due May*



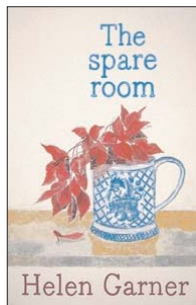
SPECIAL OFFER: Pre-order now and go in the draw to win a signed, very limited edition of this first new Tim Winton novel in seven years. Winner drawn 1 May and announced in June *Abbey's Advocate*.

The Spare Room

Helen GARNER

208pp Hb \$29.95

When I got to the end of this novel - the first from Garner in 15 years - I went straight back to the beginning and read it all over again! I suspect I will keep reading this perfect jewel of a book for many years to come. A middle-aged Melbourne writer named Helen prepares her house for the arrival of a visiting friend. Nicola has cancer and undertakes a course of alternative therapy in the expectation of a cure. Everyone else knows she is dying, but she doesn't believe so herself, placing dreadful burdens on those who love her. This is a story of deep friendship, domestic details, the will to live, and life itself. It is written in a style almost effortlessly stark, but well-honed and well-polished, with not a word out of place. It is moving without being sentimental, and exceptionally honest in tone. Definitely not a disappointment! *Due Apr Lindy*

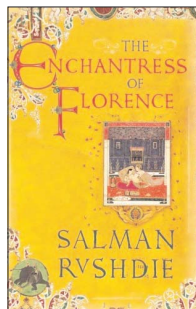


The Enchantress of Florence

Salman RUSHDIE

368pp Tp \$32.95

A tall, yellow-haired young European traveller calling himself Mogor dell'Amore, the Mughal of Love, arrives at the court of the real Grand Mughal, the Emperor Akbar, with a tale to tell that begins to obsess the whole imperial capital. The stranger claims to be the child of a lost Mughal princess, the youngest sister of Akbar's grandfather Babar: Qara Koz, 'Lady Black Eyes', a great beauty believed to possess powers of enchantment and sorcery who is taken captive first by an Uzbek warlord, then by the Shah of Persia, and finally becomes the lover of a certain Argalia, a Florentine soldier of fortune, commander of the armies of the Ottoman Sultan. When Argalia returns home with his Mughal mistress, the city is mesmerised by her presence and much trouble ensues. This is the story of a woman attempting to command her own destiny in a man's world. *Due Apr*



Abbey's Turns 40

A Continuing Retrospective - Part 4

Along the way, we opened various specialist bookshops to enhance the range of books we offered. We opened Galaxy Bookshop - specialising in science fiction, fantasy and horror - in Bathurst Street in 1975. Over the years, this shop moved to Castlereagh Street, Clarence Street and now York Street, just five doors away from Abbey's.



We started Language Book Centre in 1976 at 129 York Street having taken it over from Mrs Irom's E F & G Bookshop (English, Foreign & General) and thereby hangs a long tale in itself! We also had another general bookshop, intended for swinging young people, in the brand new Centrepoint, but that was a dire failure.

Our version of Vanity Publishing (I call it Vanity Bookselling) was Henry Lawson's Bookshop, which we opened in 1973 in the newly refurbished Royal Arcade beneath the Sydney Hilton. Some years later we moved this beautiful shop - complete with specially designed, Federation-style fixtures and interesting historical memorabilia - to York Street, next to Language Book Centre. We carried only Australian books and books on the Pacific, including many Natural History books, since the shop's manager, David McPhee, was a renowned expert on snakes! We made very little profit from Henry Lawson's, but we were intensely proud of it. In a way, the successful growth of Australian publishing overtook the need for this specialist shop, which is a good thing. We held our first annual Zonta Meet the Author Event at Henry Lawson's in 1982 as part of the Women and Arts Festival. Authors attending were Blanche D'Alpuget, Jessica Anderson, Barbara Jefferis, Sandra Hall, Elizabeth Riddell and Fay Zwicky.

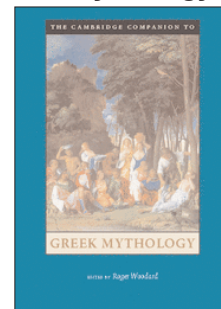

Eve Abbey
Henry Lawson's Bookshop, circa 1979

The Cambridge Companion to Greek Mythology

Roger WOODARD

568pp Pb \$49.95

Woodard brings together a group of the world's most authoritative scholars of classical myth to present a thorough treatment of all aspects of Greek mythology. 16 original articles guide the reader through all aspects of the ancient mythic tradition and its influence around the world and in later years. The articles examine the forms and uses of myth in Greek oral and written literature, from the epic poetry of 8th century BC to the mythographic catalogues of the early centuries AD. They examine the relationship between myth, art, religion and politics among the ancient Greeks and its reception and influence on later society from the Middle Ages to present day literature, feminism and cinema.

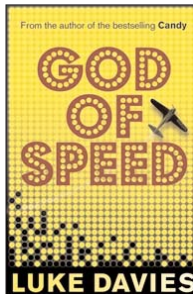

Anzac Day
Friday 25 Apr (Public Holiday)
Open 10am - 5pm

God of Speed

Luke DAVIES

287pp Tp \$32.95

Howard Hughes waits in a London hotel for his one-time friend Jack Real to visit, anticipating the coming day when he will once again pilot a plane. It is 1973 and Hughes spends his days hiding from daylight, germs and pain, with the help of a combination of drugs and his ever-vigilant Mormon assistants. As he waits, he relives his past - the women, the deals, the planes - sex and flying being the things he thinks he excelled at. I found the voice of this novel very believable, so much so that I swung between pity for the man and loathing for his character as well! A sprawling, well-realised story. *Lindy*

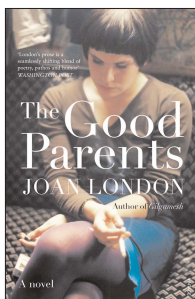


The Good Parents

Joan LONDON

Tp \$32.95

Maya de Jong, an 18-year-old country girl from the West, comes to live in Melbourne and starts an affair with her boss, the enigmatic Maynard Flynn, whose wife is dying of cancer. When Maya's parents, Toni and Jacob, arrive to stay with her, they are told by her housemate that Maya has gone away and no one knows where she is. As Toni and Jacob search for Maya in Melbourne, everything in their lives is brought into question. They recall the yearning and dreams, the betrayals and choices of their pasts - choices with unexpected and irrevocable consequences. With Maya's disappearance, the lives of all those close to her come into focus to reveal the complexity of the ties that bind us to one another, to parents, children, siblings, friends and lovers. *Due Apr*

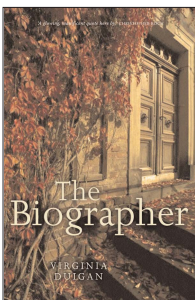


The Biographer

Peter DUGAN

Tp \$32.95

Greer Gordon lives in Italy with Mischa Svoboda, a driven Czech-born painter with a booming international reputation. She and Mischa met in the 1970s, when his debut show at the small Melbourne art gallery where Greer then worked created a sensation. He was unknown at the time, a recently arrived refugee from Prague. Their explosive love affair caused Greer to abandon her husband, job and autocratic boss, Verity, sever all contact with home, and embark on a nomadic life with Mischa. 25 years later, Tony, a young American art critic, has been researching a biography of Mischa and arrives in the small Italian hilltop community where they now live. Greer is consumed by anxiety, fearing 'the biographer' may have unearthed something that happened as a consequence of her meeting Mischa, a buried secret she had intended to write out of her life story. Greer and Tony play out a gripping cat-and-mouse game in which she tries to glean who he has spoken to and what, if anything, he knows, while he lets drop, with calculated casualness, graded snippets of information designed to keep her guessing. *Due Apr*



Day

AL KENNEDY

288pp Pb \$24.95

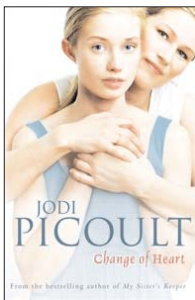
Alfred Day wanted his war. In its turmoil, he found his proper purpose as the tail-gunner in a Lancaster bomber; he found the wild, dark fellowship of his crew and, most extraordinary of all, he found Joyce, a woman to love. But that's all gone now, the war took it away. Maybe it took him, too. Now in 1949, employed as an extra in a war film that echoes his real experience, Day begins to recall what he would rather forget...

Change of Heart

Jodi PICOULT

464pp Tp \$32.95

One day June Nealon was happily anticipating a lifetime of laughter and adventure with her family, and the next she was staring into a future that was as empty as her heart. Now her life is a waiting game - waiting for time to heal her wounds, waiting for justice, waiting for a miracle. For Shay Bourne, life holds no more surprises. The world has given him nothing and he has nothing to offer the world. In a heartbeat, though, something happens that changes everything for him. Now he has one last chance for salvation and it lies with June's 12-year-old daughter Claire. But between Shay and Claire stretches an ocean of bitter regrets, past crimes and the rage of a mother who has lost her child. *Due Apr*
Note: Picoult's previous novel, **Nineteen Minutes**, is now available in Pb (\$22.95).

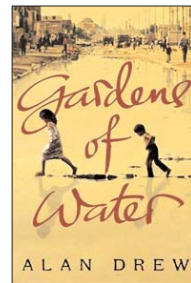


Gardens of Water

Alan DREW

352pp Tp \$32.95

In 1999, in a town on the outskirts of Istanbul, Sinan Batioethlu is caught up in everyday problems. Despite the hardships he confronts as a minority Kurd, he must be a role model for his nine-year-old son Ysmael, who is preparing for his coming-of-age ceremony. Meanwhile his teenage daughter Yrem grows more resentful of having to help her mother run the house, cover her glorious hair beneath a headscarf, and refrain from watching Western television. But the delicate stability of this family is about to be tested in the wake of a devastating earthquake that will strip Sinan of his home and livelihood, and with them his certainty as a father, husband and man of faith. Reliant upon missionaries running the camp they now call home, and morally indebted to an American whom he distrusts (and whose son Dylan exerts a frightening pull on Yrem), Sinan becomes entangled in a series of increasingly dangerous decisions. Pushed towards a final betrayal, Sinan may yet find that everything he holds dear is destroyed, like the streets of Istanbul that lie in rubble beneath his feet. Powerful, moving and beautifully written, Drew's stunning first novel brings to life two unforgettable families, one Kurdish, one American, and the sacrifice and love that bind them together. *Due Apr*

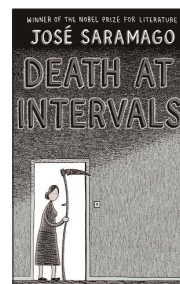


Death at Intervals

Jose SARAMAGO

208pp Tp \$32.95

On the first day of the New Year, no one dies. This understandably causes great consternation amongst religious leaders - if there's no death, there can be no resurrection and therefore no reason for religion - and what will be the effect on pensions, social services and hospitals? Funeral directors are reduced to arranging funerals for dogs, cats, hamsters and parrots. Life insurance policies become meaningless. Amid the general public, on the other hand, there is initially celebration: flags are hung out on balconies and people dance in the streets. They have achieved the great goal of humanity - eternal life. But will death's disappearance benefit the human race or will this sudden abeyance backfire? How long can families cope with malingering elderly relatives who scratch at death's door while the portal remains firmly shut? Then, seven months later, death returns, heralded by purple envelopes informing the recipients that their time is up. Death herself is now writing personal notes giving one week's notice. However, when an envelope is unexpectedly returned to her, death begins to experience strange, almost human, emotions. Saramago again turns the world on its head - an everyday event is snatched away and humankind is left to make of it what it will. *Due Apr*

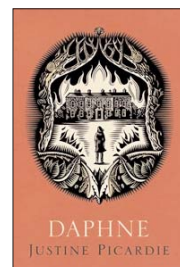


Daphne

Justine PICARDIE

Tp \$32.95

It is 1957. The author Daphne du Maurier - beautiful, famous and despairing as her marriage falls apart - finds herself haunted by Rebecca, the heroine of her most famous novel, written 20 years earlier. Resolving to write herself out of her misery, Daphne becomes passionately interested in Branwell Bronte, the reprobate brother of the Bronte sisters, and begins a correspondence with Alex Symington, an enigmatic Bronte scholar and bibliophile, as she researches a biography. But behind Symington's respectable scholarly surface is a slippery character with much to hide, and Daphne becomes embroiled in a literary mystery where truth and fiction become indistinguishable. *Due Apr*



Remembering the Bones

Frances ITANI

304pp Tp \$33.00

Georgina Danforth Witley has never felt she has led anything but an ordinary life. But here she is on her way to meet the Queen. Born on 21 April 1926, the exact same day as Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Georgie is one of 99 privileged Commonwealth subjects invited to an 80th-birthday lunch at Buckingham Palace. All she has to do is drive two hours to the airport and board the plane for London. Except that, in her excited state, Georgie drives her car off the road, tumbling into a thickly wooded ravine. Thrown from the car, injured and unable to move, but desperately hopeful that someone will find her, she must rely on her strength, her full store of family memories, her nonsense wit and a recitation of the names of the bones in her body - a long-forgotten exercise from childhood that reminds her she is still very much alive. *Due Apr*

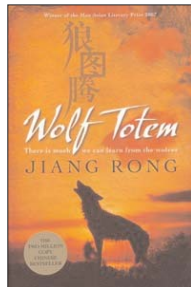


Wolf Totem

Jiang RONG

544pp Tp \$32.95

It is the 1960s and Beijing intellectual Chen Zhen volunteers to live in a remote nomadic settlement on the Inner Mongolian grasslands. There he discovers an age-old synergy between the nomads, their livestock and the wild wolves who roam the plains. Chen learns about the rich spiritual relationship that exists between these adversaries and what each might learn from the other. But when members of the People's Republic swarm in from the cities to bring modernity and productivity to the grasslands, the peace of Chen's solitary existence is shattered and the delicate balance between humans and wolves is disrupted. Only time will tell whether the grasslands' environment and culture will ever recover... A beautiful and moving portrayal of a land and culture that no longer exists, this is also a powerful portrait of modern China and a fascinating insight into the country's view of itself, its history and its people. *Due Apr*

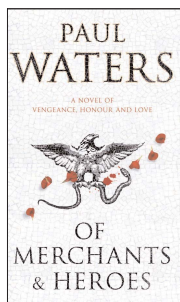


Of Merchants and Heroes

Paul WATERS

320pp Tp \$32.95

At the end of the third century BC, as Republican Rome's long war with Carthage was at last drawing to a close, it was already threatened by a new enemy - Philip, the tyrant king of Macedon in the east. Into this turbulent world emerges our Roman hero, Marcus, whose father is brutally murdered by pirates on a journey from Italy to Corfu on a visit to his uncle. Fate takes him to some of the great cities of the Greco-Roman world at a time of major turbulence, where he learns much and finds love unexpectedly. This is a remarkable, beautifully written debut that explores the timeless political and philosophical questions of democracy and tyranny, war and self-defence, as well as questions of love, loyalty and betrayal. *Due Apr*

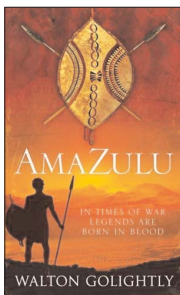


AmaZulu

Walton GOLIGHTLY

608pp Tp \$32.95

Set on the southeast coast of southern Africa in the early 1800s, this historical epic tells the story of Shaka, the father of the Zulu nation. An illegitimate and bullied child, Shaka shrugged off his troubled past to become the ruler of one of Africa's mightiest empires. Combining revolutionary military tactics with a frightening thirst for revenge, Shaka was able to conquer great swathes of southern Africa for the Zulu people, creating an empire as powerful and revered as Napoleon's France and Caesar's Rome. This is the first in a trilogy that tracks the birth and growth of the Zulu empire to its ultimate clash with the British empire in 1879. *Due Apr*

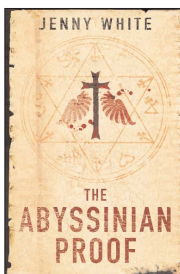


The Abyssinian Proof

Jenny WHITE

320pp Tp \$33.00

Constantinople, May 1453. In the dying days of the Byzantine Empire, as 7,000 armed men prepare to defend the city against the might of the Ottoman Turks, Isaak and his family are entrusted with a purple velvet bundle. Inside is a silver reliquary carved with the figure of a weeping angel and an inscription: "Behold the Proof of Chora, Container of the Uncontainable". The daughter asks her father "What's inside?" and he replies "This contains the proof of God". In Istanbul in 1887, the local magistrate Kamil Pasha is plagued by thefts of antiquities from mosques and churches that, within days, appear for sale in Europe. In addition, there has been a series of murders in which the bodies bear the mark of angel's wings. Could this be connected to the rumours of an ancient cult, the mythical text link between Christianity and Islam? Pasha's search takes him deep into the cisterns and tunnels of old Istanbul to a deadly rivalry, possible love and a personal revelation about his father's past. *Due Apr*

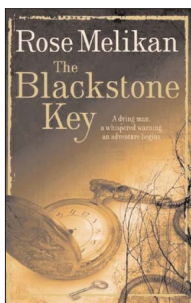


The Blackstone Key

Rose MELIKAN

448pp Tp \$33.00

In 1795, a young woman travels in haste from Cambridge to the Suffolk coast. Her name is Mary Finch and she has been invited to meet her wealthy uncle and so end a family estrangement that has held fast for more than 20 years. Smart, courageous and blessed with good looks, if not good fortune, she is excited by the prospect of adventure and the chance to escape a miserable future teaching at Mrs Bunbury's school for young ladies. But a whispered warning from a man dying on the road, who carries a strangely familiar watch bearing her uncle's initials, exposes her to a ruthless conspiracy that threatens not only her family's reputation, but her very life. With England embroiled in a bloody war with Republican France, and spies and smugglers active all along the coast, Mary must learn quickly how to fight for her survival and to distinguish friend from foe. Can she trust the two men who want to help her? What is their interest in the mysterious Blackstone key? Does it guard a secret treasure or might it have a more sinister purpose? *Due Apr*



Shadow Web

N M BROWNE

312pp Pb \$16.95

Jessica Allendon googles herself one day instead of doing her homework. She finds someone with her name in her suburb and arranges to meet. When she does meet the other Jessica, she is shocked - she is looking at herself! Catapulted into an alternative world where history, politics and social standards are vastly different, she has to adopt the other Jessica's identity and finds herself in a dangerous situation, one which might see her dead - or the universe destroyed. A page-turning thriller of a novel, highly recommended for 13+.

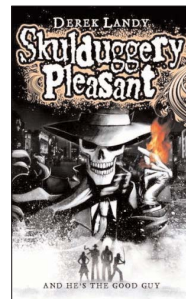


Skulduggery Pleasant Playing with Fire

Derek LANDY

320pp Pb \$15.00

He's back, and so is Stephanie, now calling herself Valkyrie Cain, and they still have a bit of saving-the-world stuff to do! An old adversary has escaped and plots to call back the Faceless Ones with the help of a lunar eclipse, shadow-dealing armour and the Grotesquerie, a hybrid monster. Oh, and an assortment of Bad Guys who want to harm Valkyrie in imaginatively painful ways! Full of action, although not quite as full of the witty quips that were such fun to read in the first instalment of this series.

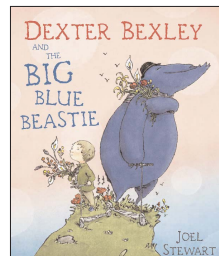


Dexter Bexley and the Big Blue Beastie

Joel STEWART

32pp Pb \$17.95

Dexter goes scooting one day and runs into the Big Blue Beastie, who is bored and thinks eating Dexter will help. But Dexter has a much better idea and they go scooting together, until the Beastie gets bored and hungry again and Dexter has to come up with another good idea! A charming little story with whimsical and witty illustrations, text that begs to be read aloud and a good-natured theme of creating your own fun. Ages 3-5.



The Wild Colonial Boys

Australia's Most Notorious Bushrangers

Paula HUNT

56pp Pb \$17

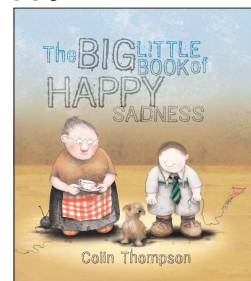
Between the First Fleet and Federation, there were hundreds of bushrangers in Australia. This clearly-arranged book tells some of their stories, from the escaped convicts of the early 19th century, to the local horsemen making good, if not honest, livings from the gold rushes, to the romanticised rangers such as Ned Kelly and Captain Moonlite. A timeline runs along the bottom of the pages, and fact boxes and extracts from contemporary sources, including ballads, are scattered liberally throughout the text, plus plenty of photographs and illustrations. A vivid depiction of a subject that many kids find fascinating! Ages 8-12

The Big Little Book of Happy Sadness

Colin THOMPSON

32pp Hb \$24.95

This is one of Thompson's sophisticated message books - a la **The Short and Incredibly Happy Life of Riley** (\$16) - and is just as likely to appeal to adults as the primary-aged children it is ostensibly aimed at. George lives with his grandmother and a great big emptiness where his parents should be. One day he passes the dog shelter and there he finds Jeremy, who looks every bit as dejected as George feels, and from there many lessons are learnt... I won't say heart-warming, because that implies sentimental, but if this doesn't make an impression on any reader, then no children's book will. One of my favourite picture-books so far this year!



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I am Melba

Ann BLAINEY

336pp Tp \$32.95

Growing up in Melbourne, Nellie Mitchell showed musical promise and dreamed of fame, but her father had more orthodox plans in mind. Early marriage took her to the Queensland cane fields, but her ambitions remained and she soon fled to London, trusting in talent and luck to get her by. Within a few years, reborn as Nellie Melba, she was performing to overflowing concert halls, hobnobbing with royalty and collaborating with Europe's most renowned musicians. When her affair with the heir to the defunct French throne was discovered, the press chased them from Paris to St Petersburg and back again, desperate for a glimpse of 'the Voice' and her royal conquest. Feted and condemned by critics, relentlessly pursued by the press and mobbed by adoring fans, Dame Nellie Melba was Australia's first superstar. Behind the scenes, she was a canny businesswoman, an affectionate mother and a playful practical joker. When she died, apparently after a botched face-lift, flags were flown at half-mast and thousands turned out to see her funeral cortege. In this definitive biography, Blainey captures the exuberance, controversy and pathos of a remarkable Australian life. *Due Apr*



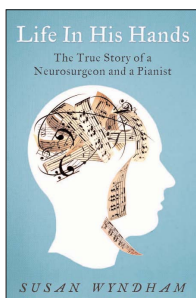
Life in His Hands

The True Story of a Neurosurgeon and a Pianist

Susan WYNNDHAM

320pp Tp \$32.95

In 2001, the brilliant young concert pianist Aaron McMillan was diagnosed with a rare type of brain tumour and given six weeks to live. He was just 24. He underwent 12 hours of emergency surgery; days later, he was back at the piano, preparing to perform. Years later, he was still performing. His doctor was Charlie Teo, one of Australia's most celebrated and controversial neurosurgeons whose specialty is inoperable brain tumours and whose radical techniques have earned him praise around the world. But in his own country he is regarded by some as reckless and even dangerous. Aaron McMillan presented Charlie with his most challenging case yet. This is the remarkable story of a medical maverick and an artist who refused to be daunted by death. *Due Apr*



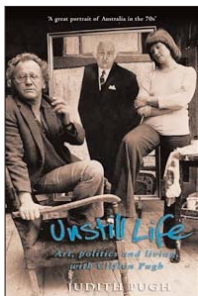
Unstill Life

Art, Politics and Living with Clifton Pugh

Judith PUGH

368pp Tp \$32.95

Judith and Clifton Pugh met in September 1970. He was an artist with an international reputation; she was 20 years younger and had just joined the Australian Labor Party. Their decade together was a heady mix of painting, policy and pleasure, where the boundaries between political, social and art worlds were blurred, reflecting the rapidly changing face of Australian society. But there was a darker side to this successful partnership. For the first time, Judith Pugh reveals the complexity of a relationship haunted by wartime experiences. This is a gritty, behind-the-scenes look at Australia's most radical government, about the days when the likes of Gough Whitlam, Don Dunstan and Christina Stead came to stay and Bert and Barbara Tucker were among their closest friends. With a unique female perspective on the times, it's about influencing change and balancing power on both grand and intimate levels. *Due Apr*

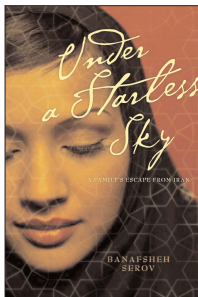


Under a Starless Sky

Banafsheh SEROV

Tp \$35.00

From the streets and bazaars of Tehran to the moonlit Turkish mountains, this is a beautiful memoir about one family's extraordinary journey. Banafsheh is eight when the revolution begins in Iran. At first her family are jubilant about the collapse of the Shah's rule and the return of Ayatollah Khomeini, but they quickly realise that Iran has simply traded one dictator for another, more ruthless ruler. His parents, Kamal and Nina, struggle with the harsh laws of the new revolutionary Iran. Khomeini's revolutionary guard, the Komiteh, patrol the streets, enforcing Islamic codes of dress and behaviour, and dispatching harsh justice to perceived enemies of the revolution. They drag Nina's father in for questioning, interrogate Nina and put Kamal on a stop-list so he is unable to leave the country. Fearing for the safety of their two children, Kamal and Nina decide the family must flee their beloved country, leaving behind their extended family and friends. But the only escape is to take the dangerous route across the Turkish mountains... *Due Apr*

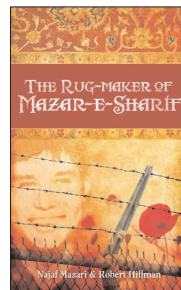


The Rug-maker of Mazar-e-Sharif

Najaf MAZARI & Robert HILLMAN

Pb \$24.95

This is the extraordinary story of an Afghani refugee's amazing journey from shepherd boy in the mountains of northern Afghanistan, his flight from torture and certain death by the Taliban, to owner of a successful traditional rug shop in Melbourne. Najaf's story begins with him in the infamous Woomera Detention Centre in the remote desert country of central Australia. This is the first book-length account of an asylum seeker in Australia to be exquisitely captured in his own voice. From the compelling opening sentence to the beautiful final chapter, Najaf's integrity, his extraordinary optimism and his generosity of spirit will win the hearts and minds of all readers. *Due Apr*

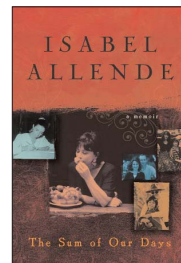


The Sum of Our Days

Isabel ALLENDE

320pp Tp \$33.00

A brilliant memoir by the celebrated Chilean novelist on friends, family and life in California, her adopted home. Allende has sold more than 50 million copies of her books worldwide. The most beloved and successful of her books, *The House of the Spirits* (Pb \$27.95), was based on her Chilean childhood, and the deeply moving *Paula* (Pb \$13.00) was written at the bedside of her daughter while she lay in a coma. In this memoir, Allende describes in an exceptionally vivid and human way, her life in California, where she has lived for more than 25 years. The first page picks up where *Paula* ends; her daughter never did awaken from her coma and died in 1992, when Allende recounts spreading Paula's ashes in her favourite part of the woods by their home. It is fair to say that Isabel has never recovered from losing her daughter, but has managed to survive by keeping her husband, son, grandchildren and close friends central to her life. *Due Apr*

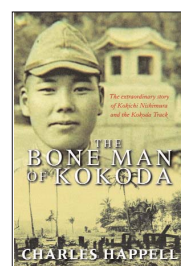


The Bone Man of Kokoda

Charles HAPPELL

288pp Tp \$32.95

Kokichi Nishimura was a member of the 2nd battalion, 144th Regiment of the Japanese Imperial Army. In 1942, he fought along every foot of Kokoda as the Japanese attempted to take Port Moresby. He was the only man from his company to survive the campaign. As he was evacuated to safety, he made a promise that one day he would return to his comrades and bring them home to Japan for proper burial. After the war, Nishimura prospered. But under the surface, the driving ambition of his life was to fulfil his promise. In 1979, he shocked his family by returning to New Guinea to search for the remains of Japanese soldiers. For the next 25 years, Nishimura lived alone along the Kokoda Track. Armed only with a metal detector, a mattock and a shovel, he searched for his dead comrades. Over the years, he found hundreds of them. Some he was able to identify and return their bones to their families; others were unknown and their remains were sent to Japan's official shrine for war dead in Tokyo. In 2005, Nishimura - now in his 80s and seriously ill - was forced to return to Japan. His story is an incredible adventure that gives us a radically different viewpoint on a battle that has become part of our national myth. *Due Apr*



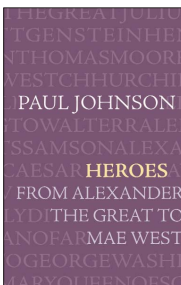
Heroes

From Alexander to the Great to Mae West

Paul JOHNSON

288pp Hb \$60.00

20 years ago, Johnson published *Intellectuals* (Pb \$29.95), which questioned whether intellectuals were morally fit to give advice to humanity. It was translated into 14 languages, but it was also criticised for over-emphasising the bad behaviour of clever and gifted people. In *Creators* (Pb \$27.00), he met this charge with a volume celebrating the achievements of outstanding and prolific creative spirits. Here he ranges even wider across human experience, achievement and character. The biblical heroes, Deborah and Judith, appear along with King David and Samson. Mary Queen of Scots is contrasted with Queen Elizabeth I. There are inspiring national leaders, military geniuses and warrior-queens. On a lighter note, Lady Pamela Berry represents the heroism of the hostess and Jane Carlyle the heroic wife. He ends with three figures who dismantled the Soviet empire: Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher and Pope John Paul II. *Due Apr*



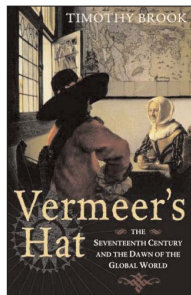
Books - Where Ideas Grow

Vermeer's Hat

The Seventeenth Century and the Dawn of the Global World

Timothy BROOK 272pp Hb \$56.00

In the hands of an award-winning historian, Vermeer's dazzling paintings become windows revealing how daily life and thought, from Delft to Beijing, were transformed in the 17th century, when the world first became global. One painting shows a military officer in a Dutch sitting room, talking to a laughing girl. In another, a woman at a window weighs pieces of silver. Vermeer's images captivate us with their beauty and mystery: what stories lie behind these stunningly rendered moments? As this book shows, these pictures, which seem so intimate, actually offer a remarkable view of a rapidly expanding world. Moving outward from Vermeer's studio, Brook traces the web of trade that was spreading across the globe. The wharves of Holland, wrote a French visitor, were "an inventory of the possible". Brook shows just how rich this inventory was, and how the urge to acquire the goods of distant lands was powerfully refashioning the world.

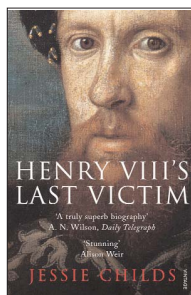


Henry VIII's Last Victim

Jessie CHILDS 416pp Pb \$27.95

Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, was one of the most flamboyant and controversial characters of Henry VIII's reign. A pioneering poet whose verse had a profound impact on Shakespeare, Surrey was nevertheless branded by one contemporary as "the most foolish proud boy that is in England". He was the heir of England's premier nobleman, first cousin to two of Henry VIII's wives - Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard - and best friend and brother-in-law to the King's illegitimate son, Henry Fitzroy. Celebrated for his chivalrous deeds both on and off the battlefield, Surrey became, at only 28, the King's Lieutenant General in France. But his confident exterior masked insecurity and loneliness. A man of intriguing contradictions, Surrey was both law enforcer and law breaker, political conservative and religious reformer. His life was replete with drunken escapades, battlefield heroics, conspiracy and courtroom drama. This book sheds new light on the opulence and artifice of a dazzling, but deadly, age.

Due Apr

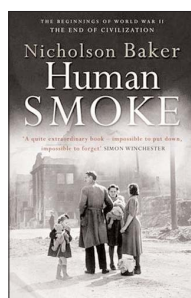


Human Smoke

The Beginnings of World War II, the End of Civilization

Nicholson BAKER 576pp Tp \$34.95

At a time when the West seems ever more eager to call on military aggression as a means of securing international peace, Baker's provocative narrative explores the political misjudgements and personal biases that gave birth to the terrifying consequences of WWII and could not be more pertinent. With original and controversial insights brought about by meticulous research, he re-evaluates the political turning points that led up to war and in so doing challenges some of the treasured myths we hold about how war came about and how atrocities like the Holocaust were able to happen.

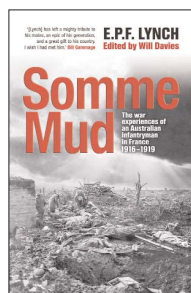


Somme Mud

Private E P F LYNCH Pb \$24.95

In 1916, Edward Lynch joined the AIF and went to fight on the Western Front. After he returned, he wrote an account of his experiences that has only now been published. But it was definitely worth the wait! Lynch manages to make you feel you're with him and his mates in the trenches - sharing the cold, the fear and the mud - but putting up with it all because your mates are depending on you. Absolutely brilliant. Dave

Due Apr

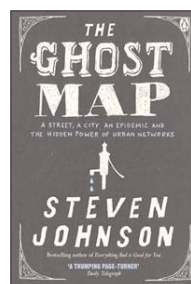


The Ghost Map

A Street, a City, an Epidemic and the Hidden Power of Urban Networks

Steve JOHNSON 304pp Pb \$24.95

Johnson tells the story of the terrifying cholera epidemic that engulfed London in 1854 and the two unlikely heroes - anaesthetist Doctor John Snow and affable clergyman Reverend Henry Whitehead - who defeated the disease through a combination of local knowledge, scientific research and map-making. In telling their extraordinary story, Johnson also explores a whole world of ideas and connections, from urban terror to microbes, ecosystems to the Great Stink, and cultural phenomena to street life. Due Apr



Terror and Consent

The Wars for the Twenty-first Century

Philip BOBBITT 560pp Pb \$35.00

The wars against terror have begun, but it will take some time before the nature and composition of these wars is widely understood. Bobbitt argues that, like so many states and civilisations in the past that suffered defeat, we are fighting the last war, with weapons and concepts that were useful to us then, but have now been superseded. He argues that we need to reforge links that previous societies have made between law and strategy; to realise how the evolution of modern states has produced a globally networked terrorism that will change as fast as we can identify it; to combine humanitarian interests with strategies of intervention; and above all, to rethink what 'victory' in such a war (if it is a war) might look like - no occupied capitals, no treaties, no victory parades, but the preservation, protection and defence of states of consent. Due Apr

'ALMOST EVERY WIDELY HELD IDEA WE CURRENTLY ENTERTAIN ABOUT THE WAR ON TERROR IS WRONG AND MUST BE THOROUGHLY RETHOUGHT.'

TERROR AND CONSENT

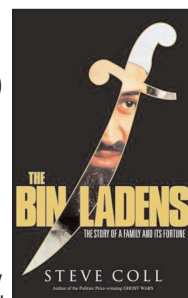
PHILIP BOBBITT

The Bin Ladens

The Story of a Family and its Fortune

Steve COLL 688pp Tp \$35.00

This is the history of how a one-eyed illiterate, Mohammed Bin Laden, from a harsh region of Yemen, went as a young man to the new, oil-rich country of Saudi Arabia and with remarkable speed became a vital figure in its development, building great mosques and highways and turning himself and his many children into millionaires. It is the story of the Saudi royal family, who the Bin Ladens served so loyally, and without whose capricious favour they would have been nothing. And it is the story of the revolutions in a modern Islam awash with oil money: of a country founded on extreme religious purity becoming mired in the temptations of the West. In only two generations, the men and women of the Bin Laden family moved from a desert canyon in Yemen to luxury jets, yachts and private compounds around the world. The religious and cultural pressures could not have been greater. This resulted in everything from enthusiasm for the West, exemplified by Osama's brother Salem, a free-living pilot and adventurer, to an overwhelming determination to destroy it.

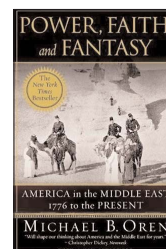


Power, Faith and Fantasy

America in the Middle East, 1776 to the Present

Michael OREN 800pp Pb \$24.95

This bestselling history is the first fully comprehensive account of America's involvement in the Middle East, from George Washington to George W Bush. As Niall Ferguson writes, "If you think America's entanglement in the Middle East began with Roosevelt and Truman, Michael Oren's deeply researched and brilliantly written history will be a revelation to you, as it was to me. With its cast of fascinating characters - earnest missionaries, maverick converts, wide-eyed tourists and even a 19th century George Bush - this is not only a terrific read, it is also proof that you don't really understand an issue until you know its history."



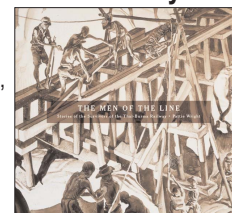
Men of the Line

Stories of the Survivors of the Thai-Burma Railway

Pattie WRIGHT 240pp Hb \$45.00

The extraordinary engineering feat of the Thai-Burma Railway, or 'the Line' as it is often called, was built with a slave labour force. A mixture of Australian, Asian, British, Dutch and American men built 688 bridges - eight made of steel and concrete - viaducts, cuttings, embankments and kilometres of railway track through thick malarial jungle. The men of the Line died of starvation, torture and disease, and here are their stories. Construction of the 415 kilometres of railway connecting Bampong in Thailand to Thananzanbuyat in Burma commenced in June 1942, finally joining up at Konkoita on 16 October 1943. An allied POW workforce of 61,700 men and an estimated native contingent of 250,000 workers worked on the Line. As was famously quoted by one of the Japanese commanders, "many men must die" - and die they did. Wright traces the working camps along the Line, bringing to life the horror, the humour and the camaraderie of these men's lives.

Due Apr

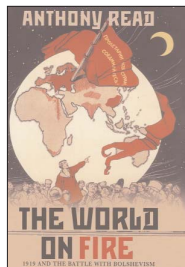


The World on Fire

1919 and the Battle with Bolshevism

Anthony READ 368pp Hb \$79.95

"We are running a race with Bolshevism and the world is on fire"- President Wilson, 1919 Paris Peace Conference. While Western leaders in Paris were drafting a peace treaty that would punish German militarism and "make the world safe for democracy", the world itself was fighting a new war against terrorism. The great evil was now Bolshevism, which had burst onto the scene in 1917 and rapidly seared itself into the world's consciousness. The Allied powers' attempts to destroy this threatening ideology at its source by intervening in the Russian civil war were both unsuccessful and controversial, ultimately providing effortless propaganda for the Bolsheviks in their fight against Western capitalist conspiracy. Furthermore, the tremors of the Russian upheaval 18 months earlier were being felt throughout the world, resurfacing in bloody revolutions and even bloodier counter-revolutions in Germany, Hungary and the Baltic States, as well as in massive strikes, riots and civil unrest that paralysed the rest of the world. This absorbing and revelatory book examines the running battle with Bolshevism, insurgency and fear during the most revolutionary year since 1789. *Due Apr*

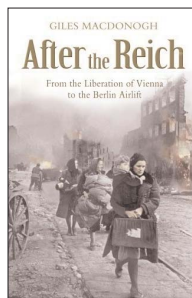


After the Reich

From the Liberation of Vienna to the Berlin Airlift

Giles MACDONOUGH 640pp Pb \$33.00

In 1945, Germany was a nation in tatters. Swathes of its population were despairing, homeless, bombed-out and on the move. Refugees streamed towards the West and soldiers made their way home, often scarring the villages they passed through with parting shots of savagery. Politically, the country was neutered, carved into zones of occupation. While Britain and America were loathe to repeat the crippling reparations demands of WWI, Russia bayed for blood, stripping their own zone of everything from rail tracks to lavatory bowls. This is the first history to give the full picture of Germany's bitter journey to reconstruction. Macdonogh expertly charts the varied experiences of all who found themselves in the German melting pot. His people-focused narrative unveils shocking truths about how people continued to treat each other, even outside the confines of war. It is a crucial lesson for our times. *Due Apr*

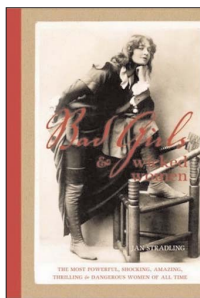


Bad Girls and Wicked Women

The Most Powerful, Shocking, Amazing, Thrilling and Dangerous Women of all Time

Jan STRADLING 288pp Pb \$39.95

This historic survey of 22 of the most ruthless and ambitious women of all time will inspire readers at the same time as it shocks. These are sassy, brilliant, magnetic, cunning, tough-as-nails women who defied the social mores of their eras. Each gripping story speaks for itself, such as Queen Mary I, who did "what it took" to protect Catholicism in England; Madame Mao, who became one of communist China's most powerful and feared leaders; Georgia Tann, who as a director of the Tennessee Children's Home made millions selling babies on the black market. These anti-heroines battled against the odds, and often against the status quo, succeeding in turning the power structure, if only for a short time, directly on its head. *Due Apr*



Voyages to the South Seas

Danielle CLODE 376pp Pb \$26.95

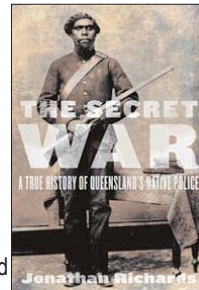
Clode recounts the epic journeys of French explorers to Australia and encompasses a remarkable period of French and Australian history, when Australia was France's Mars and marsupials were her aliens. Australia may have been colonised by England, but for many years, by sheer weight of specimens and scientific documentation, Australia's biodiversity belonged to France. Tracing the often-tragic voyages of Bougainville, Lapérouse, D'Entrecasteaux, Baudin, Freycinet, d'Urville and others to Australia from 1768 to 1828, this book brings to life the changing society that launched these ambitious endeavours and the scientific discoveries they made. *Due Apr*

The Secret War

A True History of Queensland's Native Police

Jonathan RICHARDS 320pp Tp \$39.95

Aboriginal troopers, led by white officers, formed Queensland's Native Police: a much-feared force that was responsible for the deaths of large numbers of Aboriginal people. Secretive by nature, their workings have long been misunderstood. They would often burn their victims and not report their 'dispersals' - a euphemism for mass murders and reprisal killings. But Richards has spent years studying and documenting the force's brutal dispossession of Aboriginal people from their land. This is the culmination of his work and is the latest salvo in the History Wars that sees historians, politicians and writers arguing over the extent of Indigenous deaths in frontier clashes. It is an authoritative and groundbreaking contribution to our country's white settlement history.



The Best Australian Political Writing 2008

Toby JONES

288pp Tp \$32.95

Maxine McKew selects and introduces the best political analysis of events that have shaped the past year. From the war in Iraq to the AWB scandal, the end of Kim Beazley to the Palm Island death in custody, this is a diverse and compelling collection which includes writing by the country's leading commentators and opinion-makers.

Dear Mr Rudd

Ideas for Australia

Robert MANNE (Ed)

256pp Tp \$29.95

Leading Australian thinkers offer essays on key areas of interest: climate change, the economy, human rights, the republic, water and much more besides. Contributors include Hugh White, Pat Dodson and Julian Disney.



Diggers in France

Australian Soldiers on the Western Front

Richard TRAVERS

304pp Pb \$35.00

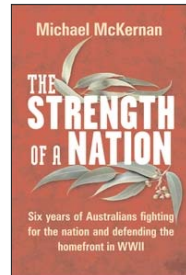
Drawing on superb anecdotal accounts from the diggers themselves, Travers describes the life and times - at the front, at rest and on leave - of the soldiers of the Australian Army in France and Belgium from 1916 until 1918, when Australia maintained an army of around 150,000 fit, young men. On the Western Front, they fought in some of the toughest battles and lived for three years on close and intimate terms with the citizens of France and Belgium, and also with Allied soldiers from Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand, the United States, France, India and many other countries. *Due Apr*

The Strength of a Nation

Michael MCKERNAN

Tp \$35.00

Nearly one million Australians out of a total population of just seven million people joined the armed forces in WWII. They made an enormous contribution to the allied war effort; they inflicted the first land defeat of the Japanese at Milne Bay in New Guinea during that war and played a crucial part in the Battle of El Alamein in North Africa, the first land defeat of the Germans. These victories in battle were only possible by virtue of their support from the Australian population, still recovering from WWI and the Great Depression. This is the story of Australia and Australians at war, at home and abroad in the six years from 1939 to 1945. *Due Apr*



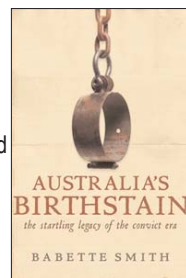
Australia's Birthstain

The Startling Legacy of the Convict Era

Babette SMITH

408pp Hb \$49.95

Why is it that Australians are still misled by myths about their convict heritage? Why are so many family historians surprised to find a convict ancestor in their family trees? Why did an entire society collude to cover up its past? Smith traces the stories of hundreds of convicts over the 80 years of convict transportation to Australia. Putting a human face on the convicts' experience, she paints a rich picture of their crimes in Britain and their lives in the colonies. We know about Port Arthur, Norfolk Island, chain gangs and floggings, but this was far from the experience of most. In fact, most convicts became good citizens and the backbone of the new nation. So why hide them away? This book rewrites the story of Australia's convict foundations, revealing the involvement of British politicians and clergy in creating a birthstain that reached far beyond convict crimes. Its startling conclusion offers a fresh perspective on our past. *Due Apr*



American Philosophy: An Encyclopedia (800pp Hb \$273) edited by John Lachs provides coverage of the major figures, concepts, historical periods and traditions in American philosophical thought. Containing over 600 entries written by scholars who are experts in the field, this encyclopedia is the first of its kind. It is a scholarly reference work that is accessible to the ordinary reader by explaining complex ideas in simple terms and providing ample cross-references to facilitate further study.

Henri Lefebvre's 3-volume **Critique of Everyday Life** (Pb Vol 1, Vol 2 and Vol 3, \$49.95 each, Boxed Set \$115) is perhaps the richest, most prescient work by one of the 20th century's greatest philosophers. The trilogy which provided the philosophy behind the 1968 student revolution in France, it is considered to be the founding text of what we now know as cultural studies. Whether discussing sport, household gadgets, the countryside, surrealism, Charlie Chaplin or religion, Lefebvre always concentrates on the minutiae of lived experience in work and leisure, daydreams and festivities.

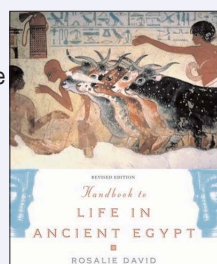


In **Hobbes: A Biography** (390pp Pb \$59.95), A P Martinich has written a complete and accessible biography, taking full account of the historical and cultural context in which Hobbes lived and drawing on both published and unpublished sources. It will be a great resource for philosophers, political theorists and historians of ideas.

Out of the East (275pp Hb \$59.95) explores the demand for spices in medieval Europe: why were they so popular, and why so expensive? Paul Freedman surveys the history, geography, economics and culinary tastes of the Middle Ages to uncover the surprisingly varied ways that spices were put to use - in elaborate medieval cuisine, in the treatment of disease, for the promotion of wellbeing and to perfume important ceremonies of the Church.

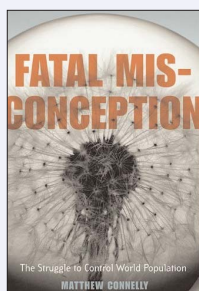
Our Greek and Latin Roots (72pp Pb \$25) by James Morwood & Mark Warman charts the historical spread of the classical languages throughout the English-speaking world and uncovers the central part they play in giving English its current shape. Latin and Greek are often called 'dead' languages. This book takes readers on a journey of exploration through their own language, helping them uncover just how central a part Greek and Latin play in giving English the shape it has today.

Combining both archaeological and historical sources, **Handbook to Life in Ancient Egypt** (432pp Pb \$52.95) by Rosalie David provides all the essential information required by anyone interested in Egyptian history, archaeology, religions or culture. In this new edition, the author discusses the latest findings in areas currently at the forefront of Egyptological research. A new chapter on Egyptology describes the history of the field, results of the latest excavations and the techniques involved in new scientific studies, such as DNA analysis and tracing of disease patterns.



In **Pius XII, the Holocaust and the Cold War** (333pp Hb \$59.95), Michael Phayer uses newly available material from the US National Archives to shed new light on the actions of the Vatican and of the man some have called 'Hitler's Pope'. As a new world war loomed, the Vatican believed it had to make a choice between Communism and Nazism. Reluctantly, both Pius XII and his predecessor chose the Nazis as the lesser of two evils. In the balance rested the fate of European Jews.

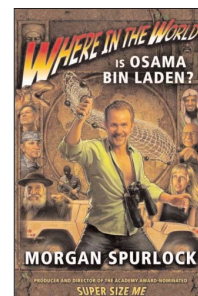
Fatal Misconception (544pp Hb \$65) by Matthew Connelly is the disturbing story of our quest to remake humanity by policing national borders and breeding better people. As the population of the world doubled once, and then again, well-meaning people concluded that only population control could preserve 'quality of life'. This movement eventually spanned the globe and carried out a series of astonishing experiments, from banning Asian immigration to paying poor people to be sterilised. Supported by affluent countries, foundations and non-governmental organisations, this population control movement experimented with ways to limit population growth. *Dave*



Where in the World is Osama Bin Laden?

Morgan SPURLOCK 320pp Tp \$34.95

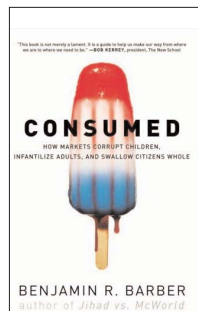
With a baby on the way and a need to make the world safe for infant-kind, an unassuming film-maker from West Virginia employs his complete lack of experience, knowledge and expertise to find the most wanted and dangerous man on earth. Beginning his epic quest in New York City, he zigzags the globe in search of the bearded man: to Britain, France, Egypt, Morocco, Israel, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan, drawing ever closer to the heart of darkness in the tribal regions of Pakistan. Along the way, he interviews experts and imams, breaks the Ramadan fast with Muslim families, identifies the surprising similarities between Osama bin Laden and Keyser Soze (of The Usual Suspects fame), helps disarm bombs with an Israeli bomb squad and accompanies the British and US Armies in Afghanistan, all in an attempt to understand the Muslim world and the roots of the conflict overshadowing the globe today. He emerges with a much deeper knowledge of the world into which his child will be born and of the roots of fundamentalism and the War on Terror. *Due Apr*



Consumed

How Markets Corrupt Children, Infantilize Adults, and Swallow Citizens Whole
Benjamin BARBER 416pp Pb \$22.95

Barber offers a portrait of how adults are infantilised in a global economy that overproduces goods and targets children as consumers in a market where there are never enough shoppers. Driven by a frantic imperative to sell, consumer capitalism specialises today in the manufacture not of goods, but of needs. This provocative culmination of Barber's lifelong study of democracy and capitalism shows how the infantilist ethos deprives society of responsible citizens and displaces public goods with private commodities. Traditional liberal democratic society is colonised by an all-pervasive market imperative. Barber confronts the likely consequences for our children, our freedom and our citizenship, and shows how citizens can resist and transcend the civic schizophrenia with which consumerism has infected them. *Due Apr*

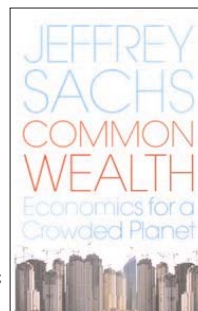


Common Wealth

Economics for a Crowded Planet

Jeffrey SACHS 400pp Tp \$32.95

Sachs is one of the world's leading economists and author of the bestselling **The End of Poverty** (Pb \$24.95). Here he analyses and addresses the great, and interconnected, global challenges of the 21st century. How do we move forward together, benefiting from our increasing technological mastery, avoiding the terrible dangers of climate change, mass famines, violent conflicts, population explosions and worldwide pandemic diseases? How do we steer global politics when there are now so many who believe they are entitled to a hand on the wheel? In answering these questions, Sachs examines, digests and judges vast quantities of information from many different fields of study in each of the interconnected areas of politics, economics and ecology. He explains the different ways of managing the world's technologies, resources and politics, and argues it should be possible to adopt policies that reflect long-term and cooperative thinking instead of, as currently, disregard for others and ever-increasing barriers to solving our collective problems. *Due Apr*



Enough

Breaking Free from the World of More

John NAISH 304pp Tp \$35.00

For millions of years, humankind has used a brilliantly successful survival strategy: if we like something, we chase more of it, whether it be more status, more food, more information or more stuff. It's how we survived famine, disease and disaster to colonise the world. But now, thanks to technology, we've suddenly got more of everything than we can ever use, enjoy or afford, although that doesn't stop us from striving for more. It's all making us sick, tired, overweight, angry and in debt. It burns up our personal ecologies and the planet's ecology too. We urgently need to develop a sense of 'enough'. Our culture keeps telling us that we don't yet have all we need to be happy, but in fact we need to nurture a new skill - the ability to bask in the bounties that already surround us. Naish explores how our Neolithic brain-wiring spurs us to build a world of overabundance that keeps us hooked on 'more'. He explains how, through adopting the art of "enoughness", we can break from this wrecking cycle. *Due Apr*

ENOUGH
Breaking free from
the world of more
John Naish

The International Atlas of Lunar

Exploration (440pp Hb \$350) by Philip Stooke is a comprehensive reference on lunar exploration. It tells the story of every spacecraft mission to the Moon, both manned and unmanned, illustrating each account with a unique combination of maps and annotated photographs.

How Apollo Flew to the Moon (412pp Pb \$59.95) by W David Woods is a detailed look at the flight operations (procedures and systems) that made it possible to get to the Moon, to live and work in lunar orbit and during the journeys between worlds, to land, and to return safely to Earth. Drawing on what happened in all the Apollo missions, the author takes us on a 'composite' mission that describes in detail what needed to be done at each stage of the mission.

Ken McCracken was a young Tasmanian astrophysicist when the Russians launched Sputnik 1. He was asked by NASA to help track it and so began a working relationship that saw him move to America and the heart of the space race. In **Blast Off** (302pp Pb \$24.95), he describes his adventures in astronomy and space science in the US and Australia.

Challenger Revealed (518pp Hb \$58) by Richard Cook is a meticulously documented account of what went wrong with the Challenger and why. Cook leads readers step-by-step, decision-by-decision to the tragic event, in the process condemning Ronald Reagan's autocratic management style and closed-door decision-making process.

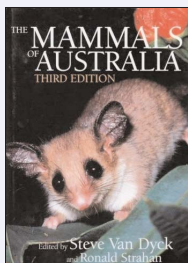
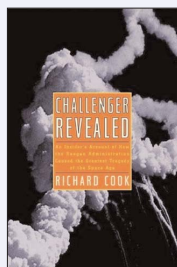
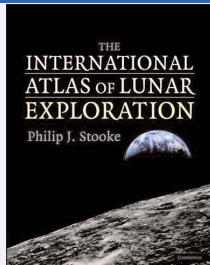
For most of the history of science, people have been taught that the tree of life consists of two branches - one represented by bacteria and the other by all the multi-celled organisms, including plants and animals. Few people realise there is a third branch on that tree, or a third domain of life. **The Third Domain** (296pp Hb \$56) by Tim Friend is the untold story of how the discovery of a new form of life - one ignored for the past 30 years by mainstream scientists - is revolutionising science, industry and even our search for the existence of life beyond Earth.

In **A Reef in Time: The Great Barrier Reef from Beginning to End** (289pp Hb \$65.00), J E N Veron presents the geological history of the reef, the biology of coral reef ecosystems and a primer on what we know about climate change. He concludes that the Great Barrier Reef, and indeed most coral reefs, will be dead from mass bleaching and irreversible acidification within the coming century unless greenhouse gas emissions are curbed. If we don't have the political will to confront this plight, current processes already in motion will become unstoppable, bringing on a mass extinction the world has not seen for 65 million years.

The Impact of Climate Change (208pp Hb \$39.95) by Carolyn Fry tries to answer our urgent questions: What is climate change? How will it affect us? What can we do to stop it? It looks at environmental, cultural and technological changes likely to occur in the 21st century and beyond. It takes scientific findings and demystifies them; it illuminates our planet's greatest threat in a dynamic and entertaining manner without being dogmatic or judgmental.

Improved technology is constantly teaching us more about the weather and with new knowledge comes new concerns and confusion. In **Restless Skies** (264pp Pb \$25), meteorologist Paul Douglas provides the answers to all these questions and more, along with fascinating illustrations, photographs, trivia and graphics. Find out what a difference a degree makes; as well as information about El Nino and how to protect yourself against the worst the weather can bring. From the distinctions between a weather warning to the definition of an F-5 tornado, all the essentials are clearly explained.

Now in its 3rd edition, **The Mammals of Australia** (888pp Hb \$125) by Steve Van Dyck & Ronald Strahan provides an account of every species of native mammals known to have existed in Australia since European settlement and every introduced species now living in a wild state. The result of many years of intensive research, this is a magnificent photographic record, structured into an authoritative, accessible form. Dave



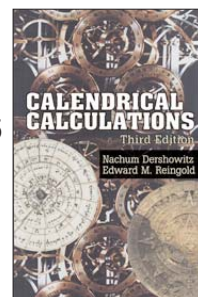
Science

Calendrical Calculations

Nachum DERSHOWITZ & Edward REINGOLD

512pp Pb \$49.95

This third edition of the popular calendars book expands the treatment of the previous edition to new calendar variants: generic cyclical calendars and astronomical lunar calendars, as well as the Korean, Vietnamese, Aztec and Tibetan calendars. As interest grows in the impact of seemingly arbitrary calendrical systems upon our daily lives, this book frames the calendars of the world in a completely algorithmic form. Easy conversion among these calendars is a by-product of the approach, as is the determination of secular and religious holidays. This book is a valuable resource for working programmers, as well as a fount of useful algorithmic tools for computer scientists. Due Apr



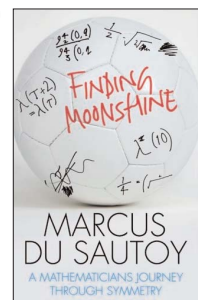
Finding Moonshine

A Mathematician's Journey Through Symmetry

Marcus Du SAUTOY

400pp Hb \$45.00

This is the story of how humankind has come to its understanding of the bizarre world of symmetry, a subject of fundamental significance to the way we interpret the world around us. Our eyes and minds are drawn to symmetrical objects, from the sphere to the swastika, from the pyramid to the pentagon. In chemistry and physics, the concept of symmetry explains the structure of crystals or the theory of fundamental particles. In evolutionary biology, the natural world exploits symmetry in the fight for survival. Symmetry is central to ideas in art, architecture and music. The mathematics of symmetry is even exploited in industry, such as finding efficient ways to store more music on a CD or stopping interference from cracking up your mobile phone conversation. Sautoy strives to push his own boundaries to find ways of sharing the excitement of mathematics with a broader audience, and charts his own personal quest to master one of the most innate and intangible concepts, demonstrating the intricacy and beauty of the world around us. Due Apr



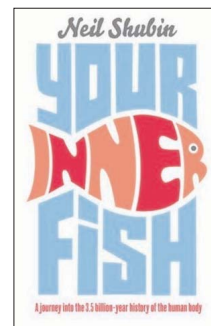
Your Inner Fish

A Journey into the 3.5 Billion-Year History of the Human Body

Neil SHUBIN

240pp Hb \$49.95

Shubin draws on the latest genetic research and his unrivalled experience as an expeditionary palaeontologist to show the incredible impact the 3.5 billion-year history of life has had on our bodies. Why do we look the way we do? When did we first evolve the features and capabilities that we now have and are they still of any use to us? Why do we fall ill in the way that we do? It turns out that many of our most distinctive features evolved when we were still swimming in the oceans. We all feel very familiar with our teeth, but do we know they originally evolved as body armour in shark-like fish 480 million years ago? And what about the historical connection between breasts, sweat glands and scales? Shubin takes us on a fascinating, unexpected journey, allowing us to discover the deep connection to nature in our own bodies. Due Apr



Dark Side of the Moon

The Magnificent Madness of the American Lunar Quest

Gerard DEGROOT

336pp \$27.95

For a very brief moment during the 1960s, America was moonstruck. Every boy dreamed of being an astronaut; every girl dreamed of marrying one. But despite the best efforts of a generation of scientists, the almost foolhardy heroics of the astronauts, and \$35 billion, the moon turned out to be a place of "magnificent desolation", in the words of Buzz Aldrin - a sterile rock of no purpose to anyone. DeGroot reveals how NASA cashed in on the Americans' thirst for heroes in an age of discontent and became obsessed with putting men in space. Landing on the moon, it was argued, would be good for the economy, politics and the soul. It could even win the Cold War. Drawing on meticulous archival research, DeGroot cuts through the myths constructed by the administrations of Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson, and sustained by NASA ever since. He exposes the truth behind one of the most revered fictions of American history.



Bring on the Apocalypse Six Arguments for Global Justice

George MONBIOT 256pp Tp \$29.95

Monbiot is a fearless heretic with an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. In these incendiary essays, he tears apart the fictions of religious conservatives, the claims of those who deny global warming, and the lies of the governments and newspapers that led us into war. He takes no prisoners, exposing government corruption in devastating detail, while clashing with people as diverse as Bob Geldof, Ann Widdecombe and David Bellamy. Monbiot explores the astonishing politics behind Constable's painting *The Cornfield*, shows how driving cars has changed the way we think, and argues that eternal death is a happier prospect than eternal life. Often controversial, always original, Monbiot continually asks the big questions, challenging our most dearly-held beliefs.



The Universe A Biography

John GRIBBIN 256pp Pb \$26.95

How did the universe grow from a tiny fireball to its present size? Where did life on Earth come from? How do planets form? How will it end? And do we even know all this? Gribbin, one of Britain's most popular writers about science and the people who made it happen, has created a biography of the greatest subject of all: the universe itself, from beginning to end (and beyond). From the Big Bang 14 billion years ago and the formation of stars and galaxies and the first stirrings of life, to the latest thinking on dark matter and a theory of everything - and beyond to the future possibility of a Big Crunch or Big Rip - this is the life history of the entire world around us. *Due Apr*

Natural Acts

A Sidelong View of Science and Nature

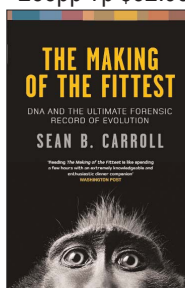
David QUAMEN 216pp Hb \$33.95

A revised and expanded edition of Quammen's first book of non-fiction, including the best of his recent work. His lively curiosity leads him from New Mexico to Romania, from the Congo to the Amazon, asking questions about mosquitoes (what are their redeeming merits?), dinosaurs (how did they change the life of a dyslexic Vietnam vet?) and cloning (can it save endangered species?). *Due Apr*

The Making of the Fittest DNA and the Ultimate Forensic Record of Evolution

Sean CARROLL 288pp Tp \$32.95

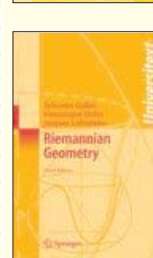
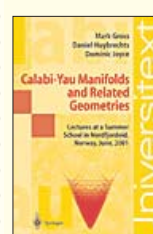
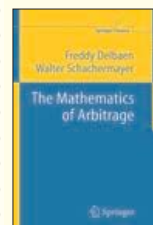
We know that DNA is the genetic blueprint of all creatures, but recently an important new dimension has been revealed - DNA contains a vast and detailed record of how species adapt and change; it is therefore a living chronicle of evolution. Every new trait - from the vibrant colours of tropical birds to the colour vision through which we admire nature's artworks - is due to gradual changes in DNA that we can now trace. This is a treasure trove of new information about how evolution works, why it matters and how this process has shaped our world. *Due Apr*



Look out for the following Springer Verlag titles with the distinctive yellow covers in the Mathematics section! This is a selection of titles drastically reduced until 30 June or until stocks last.

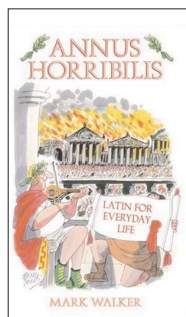
For a full list of sale titles go to www.abbey.com.au.

		was	now
Introduction to Analytic Number Theory	APOSTAL Hb	\$128.95	\$68.95
Mathematical Aspects of Classical and Celestial	ARNOLD Hb	\$238.95	\$121.95
Ordinary Differential Equations	ARNOLD Pb	\$114.95	\$68.95
Applied Probability and Queues	ASMUSSEN Hb	\$136.95	\$75.95
Measure Theory and Probability Theory	ATHREYA Hb	\$172.95	\$98.95
Mathematical Problems in Image Processing	AUBERT Hb	\$124.95	\$68.95
A Course in Derivative Securities	BACK Hb	\$126.95	\$68.95
Classes of Finite Groups	BALLESTER-BOLINCHES Hb	\$367.95	\$184.95
Linear Algebra through Geometry	BANCHOFF Hb	\$126.95	\$68.95
Compact Complex Surfaces	BARTH Hb	\$263.95	\$136.95
Algorithms in Real Algebraic Geometry	BASU Hb	\$139.95	\$75.95
Geometry II	BERGER Pb	\$104.95	\$57.95
Error Correcting Linear Codes	BETTEN Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Immersive Audio Signal Processing	BHARITKAR Hb	\$154.95	\$84.95
Conics and Cubics	BIX Hb	\$109.95	\$61.95
Operator Algebras	BLACKADAR Hb	\$241.95	\$121.95
Lattices and Ordered Algebraic Structures	BLYTH Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Effective Computational Geometry for Curves	BOISSONNAT Hb	\$183.95	\$103.95
Computational Electromagnetics	BONDESON Hb	\$126.95	\$68.95
Discovering Mathematics with Magma	BOSMA Hb	\$136.95	\$75.95
Operator Algebras	BRATTELI Hb	\$158.95	\$91.95
Topology and Geometry	BREDON Hb	\$137.95	\$75.95
Techniques of Constructive Analysis	BRIDGES Pb	\$91.95	\$57.95
Introduction to Cryptography	BUCHMANN Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
A Course in Credibility Theory and its Applications	BUHLMANN Pb	\$104.95	\$57.95
Search Methodologies	BURKE Hb	\$189.95	\$98.95
Interest Rate Models	CARMONA Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Frontiers in Number Theory Physics and Geometry I	CARTIER Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Global Aspects of Complex Geometry	CATANESE Hb	\$184.95	\$104.95
Course in Modern Geometries	CEDERBERG Hb	\$109.95	\$61.95
Ordinary Differential Equations with Applications	CHICONE Hb	\$126.95	\$68.95
Cyclotomic Fields and Zeta Values	COATES Hb	\$114.95	\$68.95
Course in Computational Algebraic Number Theory	COHEN Hb	\$149.95	\$84.95
Concepts and Results in Chaotic Dynamics	COLLET Hb	\$137.95	\$75.95
Functions of One Complex Variable I	CONWAY Hb	\$109.95	\$61.95
Number Theory: An Introduction to Mathematics	COPPELL Hb	\$109.95	\$61.95
Modular Forms and Fermats Last Theorem	CORNELL Pb	\$99.95	\$57.95
Prime Numbers: A Computational Perspective	CRANDALL Hb	\$126.95	\$68.95
Linear Algebra	CURTIS Hb	\$114.95	\$68.95
Introduction to Infinite-Dimensional Analysis	DA PRATO Pb	\$104.95	\$57.95
Mathematics of Arbitrage	DELBAEN Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Large Coulomb Systems	DEREZINSKI Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Newton Methods for Nonlinear Problems	DEUFLHARD Hb	\$184.95	\$104.95
Graph Theory	DIESTEL Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Fixed Point Theory	DUGUNDJI Hb	\$159.95	\$91.95
Qualitative Theory of Planar Differential Systems	DUMORTIER Pb	\$91.95	\$57.95
Numerical Methods for Fluid Dynamics	DURRAN Hb	\$149.95	\$84.95
Mathematical Logic	EBBINGHAUS Hb	\$126.95	\$68.95
Short Course on Operator Semigroups	ENGEL Hb	\$109.95	\$61.95
Modern Projective Geometry	FAURE Hb	\$378.95	\$195.95
Controlled Markov Processes and Viscosity	FLEMING Hb	\$145.95	\$84.95
Lectures on Riemann Surfaces	FORSTER Hb	\$131.95	\$75.95
Complex Analysis	FREITAG & BAUSAM Pb	\$89.95	\$57.95
Algebraic Theory of Locally Nilpotent Derivations	FREUDENBURG Hb	\$218.95	\$114.95
Algebraic Topology	FULTON Pb	\$89.95	\$57.95
Complex Analysis	GAMELIN Pb	\$98.95	\$43.95
Handbook of Metaheuristics	GLOVER Hb	\$419.95	\$206.95
Algebraic Functions and Projective Curves	GOLDSCHMIDT Hb	\$109.95	\$57.95
Random Cluster Model	GRIMMETT Hb	\$206.95	\$104.95
Calabi-Yau Manifolds and Related Geometries	GROSS Hb	\$114.95	\$68.95
Mathematical Concepts of Quantum Mechanics	GUSTAFSON Pb	\$91.95	\$57.95
Lie Groups Lie Algebras and Representations	HALL Hb	\$107.95	\$61.95
Naive Set Theory	HALMOS Hb	\$103.95	\$57.95
Differential Topology	HIRSCH Hb	\$126.95	\$75.95
Introduction to Lie Algebras and Representation	HUMPHREYS Hb	\$121.95	\$68.95
Mathematics Dictionary	JAMES Pb	\$241.95	\$126.95
Ernst Equation and Riemann Surfaces	KLEIN Hb	\$137.95	\$75.95
Course in Number Theory and Cryptography	KOBLITZ Hb	\$112.95	\$68.95
Algebraic Number Theory	LANG Hb	\$119.95	\$68.95
Applied Probability and Statistics	LEFEBVRE Hb	\$106.95	\$61.95
Riemannian Geometry	PETERSEN Hb	\$107.95	\$61.95
Automorphic Forms and Lie Superalgebras	RAY Hb	\$135.95	\$75.95
Geometry of Surfaces	STILLWELL Pb	\$99.95	\$57.95
Numbers and Geometry	STILLWELL Hb	\$99.95	\$57.95
Foundations of Differentiable Manifolds and Lie Groups	WARNER Hb	\$126.95	\$68.95
Chaos: Introduction to Dynamical Systems	YORKE Pb	\$107.95	\$61.95



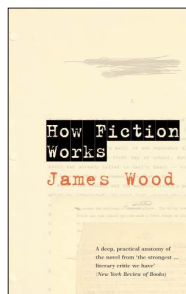
Annus Horribilis Latin for Everyday Life

Mark WALTER 192pp Hb \$34.95
Everybody remembers the Queen's "Annus Horribilis", but what do "quid pro quo" and "habeas corpus" mean? Why do plants have Latin names? Why do families, towns, countries and even football teams have Latin mottoes? What do the Latin epitaphs in churches say? What are the words of Mozart's Requiem? These are just a few of the topics covered in this book. As Walker makes clear, present-day English is still steeped in its Roman and Latin origins. As a result, English still has many thousands of Latin words in everyday use. Caveat emptor!



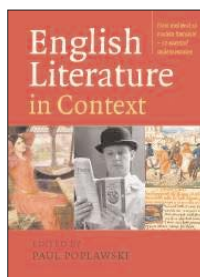
How Fiction Works

James WOOD 208pp Tp \$39.95
In his first full-length book of criticism, one of the most prominent critics of our time takes the machinery of storytelling apart to ask a series of fundamental questions: What do we mean when we say we 'know' a fictional character? What constitutes a 'telling' detail? When is a metaphor successful? Is realism realistic? Why do most endings of novels disappoint? Wood ranges widely, from Homer to Beatrix Potter, from the Bible to John Le Carre, and this book is both a study of the techniques of fiction-making and an alternative history of the novel. Playful and profound, it incisively sums up two decades of bold, often controversial, and now classic critical work. *Due Apr*



English Literature in Context

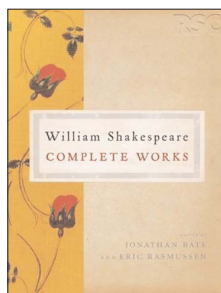
Paul POPLAWSKI (Ed) 706pp Pb \$59.95
Comprehensive and accessible, this textbook supports the study of English literature from the Middle Ages to the present, and is designed as a main resource for all students of English Literature. The seven chronological chapters are written by a team of expert contributors who are also highly experienced teachers. Each analyses a major historical period, surveying and documenting the cultural contexts that have shaped English literature and focusing on key texts. In addition to the narrative survey, each chapter includes a detailed chronology, providing a quick-reference guide to the period; contextual readings of select literary texts; and annotated suggestions for further reading. *Due Apr*



The RSC Shakespeare Complete Works

William SHAKESPEARE
Jonathan BATE & Eric RASMUSSEN (Eds)
2,522pp Pb \$65.00

Developed in partnership with The Royal Shakespeare Company, this fresh, new Complete Works combines the very latest scholarship with elegant writing and design. It includes a definitive modernised edition of Shakespeare's text based on the 1623 First Folio (the first and original Complete Works lovingly assembled by Shakespeare's fellow actors), thought-provoking essays on each play and a superb general introduction by Jonathan Bate. [Note: A very limited, leather-bound collector's edition is also available for \$385]. *Due Apr*



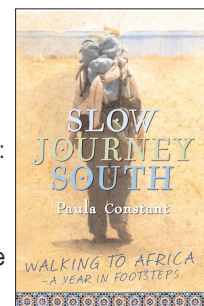
City of Words Massey Lecture Series

Alberto MANGUEL 108pp Pb \$24.95
Based on Canada's 2007 CBC Massey Lectures (to be broadcast this month on ABC Radio National), Manguel takes a fresh look at the rise of violent intolerance in our societies. We strive to build societies with sets of values that all citizens can agree on, but something has gone wrong: race riots in France, political murder in the Netherlands, bombings in Britain and Bali. Are these symptoms of a multicultural experiment gone awry? Why is it so difficult for us to live together when the alternatives are demonstrably horrifying? With his trademark wit and erudition, Manguel suggests a fresh approach: we should look at what visionaries, poets, novelists, essayists and filmmakers have to say about building societies. From Cassandra to Jack London, the Epic of Gilgamesh to the computer Hal in 2001: A Space Odyssey, to Don Quixote, Manguel draws fascinating and revelatory parallels between the personal and political realities of our present-day world and those of myth, legend and story. *Due Apr*

Slow Journey South

Walking to Africa - a Year in Footsteps
Paula CONSTANT Pb \$27.95

What starts out as an idle daydream to embark on "a travel to end all travels" turns into something far greater: an epic, year-long, 5,000-km walk from Trafalgar Square in London to Morocco and the threshold of the Sahara Desert. Quite an ambition for an unfit woman who favours sharing cigarettes and a few bottles of wine with friends over logging time on a treadmill at the gym! But if the sheer arduousness of walking over 25 kilometres a day through the landscapes and cultural labyrinths of France, Spain, Portugal and Morocco, without a support vehicle, is overlooked in excitement, then so too is the unexpected journey of self-discovery and awakening that lies beyond every bend. Paula's transformation from an urban primary school teacher into a successful expeditioner is a true tale of an ordinary woman achieving something extraordinary. *Due Apr*

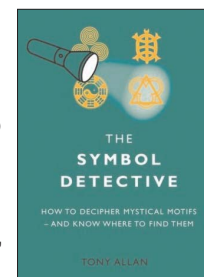


The Symbol Detective

How to Decipher Mystical Motifs -
and Know Where to Find Them

Tony ALLAN 106pp Pb \$19.95

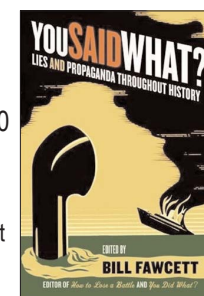
This practical, easy-to-follow field guide allows you to pursue your own sleuthing trail through the iconology and symbology of the world's religions, secret societies and cults. As you investigate these fascinating subjects, you're sure to unearth hidden meanings in paintings, buildings and decorative arts, allowing you to discover more about beliefs and resonances deeply rooted in the past, many of which continue into the present. With illustrated references to mysteriously adorned buildings, such as Roslyn Chapel (Scotland) and The Salt Lake Mormon Temple (Utah), this book allows you to recognise motifs in situ and so begin your personal journey to reveal layers of meaning in artefacts of all kinds. *Due Apr*



You Said What?

Lies and Propaganda Throughout History
Bill FAWCETT (Ed) 336pp Pb \$28.00

From the press conspiracies that protected FDR's legs, as well as JFK's sex addiction and failing health, to big lies that changed history, such as Vietnam's Gulf of Tonkin, the Cuban missile crisis and the 'Polish' raid that kicked off WWII, this is an endlessly entertaining and outrageously edifying look at some of the biggest whoppers of all time.



Children on Demand The Ethics of Defying Nature

Tom FRAME 224pp Tp \$32.95

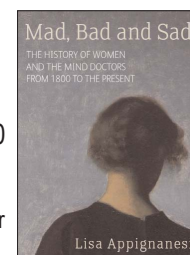
This book examines the ethics of various forms of alternative parenthood, focusing specifically on adoption and assisted reproductive technologies, and the moral dilemmas they create for both individuals and the state. Frame discusses the ethical challenges that arise when scientific possibilities get ahead of community consensus. The central question of this comprehensive, careful and challenging book is: What is best for the child?



Mad, Bad and Sad The History of Women and the Mind Doctors from 1800 to the Present

Lisa APPIGNANESI 560pp Hb \$65.00

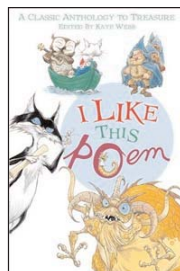
This is the story of how we have understood extreme states of mind over the last 200 years and how we conceive of them today, when more and more of our inner life and emotions have become a matter for medics and therapists. From the depression suffered by Virginia Woolf and Sylvia Plath to the mental anguish and addictions of iconic beauties Zelda Fitzgerald and Marilyn Monroe; from Theroigne de Mericourt, Fury of the Gironde, who descended from the bloody triumphs of the French Revolution to untameable insanity in La Salpêtrière asylum, to Mary Lamb, sister of Charles, who in the throes of a nervous breakdown turned on her mother with a kitchen knife. Here too is the story of the professions that have grown up to offer treatment, of how over the years symptoms and diagnoses have developed together to create fashions in illness and how treatments have succeeded, or sometimes failed, even when those providing care were women too. *Due Apr*



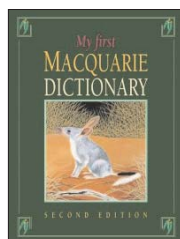
On St Valentine's Day, I had lunch in the Shakespeare Room at the State Library with the current members of the *Miles Franklin* judging panel, including Lesley Mackay, who is taking my place on the panel. Lesley reminded me that, like Abbey's, her bookshop will be forty years old this year. The famous Double Bay shop is now closed, but she still has the nice shop in Queen Street, Woollahra. What a lot of good things were happening forty years ago in 1968.

Before walking up the hill to the library from Circular Quay, I spent some time in the lobby of the City of Sydney Public Library in the old Customs House. While reading some of the plaques, I remembered the days when booksellers had to submit to the Customs Department on a monthly basis the original invoices for all books purchased from overseas! I remember trailing through lots of corridors to find the right person. At one time, this official was located in the old General Post Office, where the corridors were even longer! Senator Don Chipp was instrumental in getting rid of this silly bit of censorship. The title of a book on an invoice was often totally misleading anyway.

I continue to be pleasantly impressed with the books in our Children's section, especially the Non-Fiction areas. These are mostly single titles, so you may prefer to troll through our website. Lindy Jones chooses a marvellous selection of good new books, as well as making sure the old favourites are still there. She has a Classics section in both paperback and hardback. For instance, one of the paperbacks is *I Like this Poem* (\$14.95 Pb 190pp), chosen by children and edited by the legendary Puffin Books editor Kaye Webb. First published in 1979 and still going strong. The poems are arranged in age groups, but take your pick. Each poem has a sentence attached, the words of the contributor, telling why it was chosen. From Wordsworth and Christina Rossetti to Roald Dahl and Michael Rosen. There is a whole shelf of titles in this Young Poetry section, including a treasure trove of different editions of nursery rhymes.

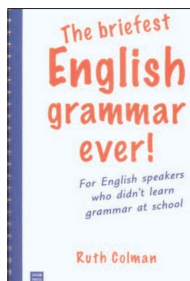


In Reference, we have some good first dictionaries for young students, especially *The Macquarie Children's Dictionary* (\$18.95 Pb 108pp) with simple illustrations, *My First Macquarie Dictionary* 2nd ed (\$30.95 Pb 254pp), or *The Macquarie Junior Dictionary* 3rd edition (\$29.95 Pb 686pp). I now have Scrabble on my computer at home and have discovered eight-year-old Will is a whiz at this, so I shall get him a dictionary.



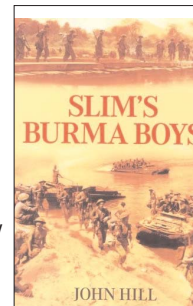
I read recently that there are now more students in Creative Writing classes at university than there are students of Literature. However, you can be an appreciative reader without attending classes (just as you can probably be a writer without attending classes), but just in case, I looked at the large selection of books in our Writing & Publishing section. Some suggestions are *On Writing Romance: How to Write a Novel That Sells* by Leigh Michaels (\$25 Pb 264pp incl index) and *How to Write Fiction (And Think About It)* by Robert Graham (\$39.95 Pb 262pp incl index and exercises for you to do). Neil James, Executive Director of the Plain English Foundation, is the author of *Writing at Work: How to Write Clearly, Effectively and Professionally* (\$35 Pb 374pp incl index). There are many titles for professionals, including Janet Mackenzie's *The Editor's Companion* (\$45 Lp 219pp incl index). This 2007 edition includes help on how to adapt for digital production.

Next to Writing & Publishing, in addition to all the material in Language Book Centre's section for ESL (English as a Second Language), we have another section for Grammar & Usage, including Ruth Colman's spiral-bound bestseller *The Briefest English Grammar Ever!* (\$15.95 Pb 35pp) and *The Oxford Reference Grammar* (\$52.95 Pb 410pp incl index).

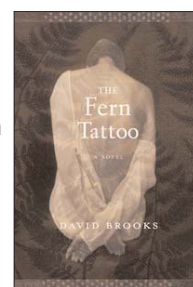


I see that our famous Historiography section has grown and now takes up more than one shelf! This came to my notice because we currently have a bestseller, John Burrow's *History of Histories: Epics, Chronicles, Romances and Inquiries from Herodotus and Thucydides to the Twentieth Century* (\$59.95 Hb 576pp). Other titles here are *The Feminist History Reader* ed Sue Morgan (\$67 Pb 416pp incl index), *The Companion to Western Historical Thought* ed Kramer & Maza (\$68.95 Pb 520pp incl index), M C Lemon's *Philosophy of History: A Guide for Students* (\$61 Pb 461pp incl index) and Murray & Sinreich's *The Past as Prologue: The Importance of History to the Military Profession* (\$43.95 Pb 287pp incl index).

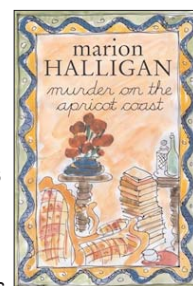
Because of my interest in Burma and the Karens, I read a book called *Slim's Burma Boys* by John Hill (\$49.95 Hb 160pp incl index) from our 20th Century History section. I suspect the Second World War in Burma was of more interest to us in Australia and New Zealand, but in England it became known as The Forgotten War. The events in Europe seemed far more important, but soldiers fighting in Burma against the formidable Japanese Army faced greater difficulties in terrain, climate and poor communications. They had to be very skilful soldiers. This small book, written by one of the few officers who survived the entire campaign, pays respect especially to the men of the Royal Berkshire Regiment and describes, in down-to-earth fashion, some of the battles, as well as a return to Burma for a BBC documentary. Military historians will like this personal homage.



I confess to enjoying a rather old-fashioned melodrama by an established local author, David Brooks. This is *The Fern Tattoo* (\$32.95 Pb 374pp). There are runaway girls, drunken fathers, secret loves, inheritances, lost letters, dreams and apparitions in this tangled saga. Brooks worked on the manuscript for years and I think some scenes should not have made it into print, but never mind! The writing is luxurious and the story engrossing.



I enjoyed Marion Halligan's romantic mystery, *Murder on the Apricot Coast* (\$21.95 Pb 249pp) and I hope we shall see more in this series. Readers of Alexander McCall Smith will enjoy them too. The central characters are an editor, living in Canberra, and her new gorgeous husband, who just might be a spy. There are lots of digressions, about food of course, words and publishing. These are nice stories from a writer who loves to write and writes well. Her first book in this series was *The Apricot Colonel* (\$19.95 Pb).



I also recommend Georgia Blain's *Births, Deaths, Marriages: True Tales* (\$24.95 Pb 224pp), a heartbreakingly honest account of her childhood with famous parents Ellis Blain and Anne Deveson and her path to becoming a writer herself.

There is a new addition to the entertainment titles in our Latin Classics section upstairs, *Latin Love Lessons: Put a Little Ovid in Your Life* by Charlotte Higgins (\$29.95 Hb 176pp plus glossary). Called "a light-hearted stroll through all the best bits of Roman literature", this is a good follow-on to *Amo, Amas, Amat and All That: How to Become a Latin Lover* by Harry Mount (\$29.95 Hb 288pp). I notice Higgins translates all the poems into English, so if your Latin is rusty you'll still get the point. She also acknowledges Asterix in the permissions, so this is the moment to remind you that we carry the entire inimitable Asterix series, as well as Tin Tin.

On the wall behind our cash registers we put interesting, large-sized books. One that has been attracting lots of comment is *In England* by Don McCullin (\$130 Hb 252pp), which has historic photographs illustrating the still-existing gulf between the classes in England. These lyrical photos of people and their landscape are all in black and white. I see we also have a representative selection of this renowned photographer's work in the *Photofile* series, simply called Don McCullin (\$24.95 Pb 144pp).

A reminder that the *Eureka Prizes* closing date is 2 May 2008. For more information, visit www.australianmuseum.net.au/eureka.

I've got a lovely big brochure from the Cambridge Summer School, which runs from 6 July to 15 August. You can have a look at it in the shop (ask at the information counter) or visit www.cont-ed.cam.ac.uk/intsummer. Recommended for a wonderfully interesting holiday.

HECKLERS WANTED! In case you didn't see last month's *Abbey's Advocate*, in July we are publishing an historical overview of Abbey's Bookshop, which will include an anthology of forty pieces called FORTY MEMORIES. If you are one of the very many long-term customers of Abbey's, or even a new devotee, surely you have a story to tell about book-buying at Abbey's? We'd like to have your memory - personal, amusing, scandalous or thoughtful. If it is published, you will receive a \$40 book voucher. Between 400 and 500 words please. Send it to me at ebabbey@ozemail.com.au before 25 April.

Eve



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Abbey's Bestsellers March 2008

Non-Fiction

- 1 **Van Diemen's Land: A History** by James Boyce (Hb \$49.95)
- 2 **Four Ingredients** by Kim McCosker & Rachael Bermingham (Pb \$17.95)
- 3 **A History of Histories: Epics, Chronicles, Romances and Inquiries from Herodotus and Thucydides to the Twentieth Century** by John Burrow (Hb \$59.95)
- 4 **God's Crucible: Islam and the Making of Europe, 570-1215** by David Levering Lewis (Hb \$40.95)
- 5 **Poll Dancing: The Story of the 2007 Election** by Mungo MacCallum (Pb \$24.95)
- 6 **Quarterly Essay #28: Exit Right: The Unravelling of John Howard** by Judith Brett (Pb \$14.95)
- 7 **The Logic of Life: Uncovering the New Economics of Everything** by Tim Harford (Tp \$35.00)
- 8 **New Rome: The Fall of an Empire and the Fate of America** by Cullen Murphy (Pb \$27.95)
- 9 **How Good are You?** by Julian Lee (Pb \$24.95)
- 10 **History's Children** by Anna Clark (Pb \$29.95)

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- 1 **People of the Book** by Geraldine Brooks (Tp \$33.00)
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- 3 **An Arsonist's Guide to Writers' Homes in New England** by Brock Clarke (Tp \$32.95)
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- 6 **On Chesil Beach** by Ian McEwan (Pb \$23.95)
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- 9 **No Country for Old Men** by Cormac McCarthy (Pb \$24.95)
- 10 **The Memory Room** by Christopher Koch (Tp \$32.95)

Editor: Ann Leahy
Contributors: Eve Abbey,
 David Hall, Lindy Jones
 Ann Leahy & Greg Waldron.

Binding Key

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

Now in Paperback

The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak \$19.95
 It is 1939. Nazi-Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier and will become busier still. Liesel and her younger brother are being taken by their mother to live with a foster family outside Munich.

The Yiddish Policeman's Union

by Michael Chabon \$25.00
 Chabon's vivid storytelling shines in this alternate history of a world where Jews were settled in Alaska after World War II. *Due Apr*

Perfect Hostage: A Life of Aung San Suu Kyi

by Justin Wintle \$27.95
 Like Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela, Aung San Suu Kyi is an iconic figure, and the best-known prisoner of conscience alive today. Awarded the *Nobel Peace Prize* in 1991, at great personal cost she has steadfastly opposed Burma's brutal military regime since 1988, when she emerged as the leader of the Burmese democracy movement. As well as house arrest, she has endured every kind of intimidation, including an attempt on her life in 2003.

A Gentle Axe

by Roger Morris \$23.95
 If you've ever wondered what became of Porfiry Petrovich - the round, pale, blinking, but ever-so-sharp investigator from Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment* (\$12.95) - here he is, granted a new lease of life and more murders to investigate in St Petersburg. Delightful! *Ann*

Gallipoli Diaries

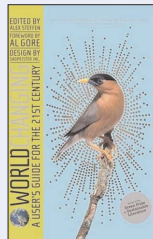
by Jonathan King \$32.95
 A timely new edition of King's unequalled series of extracts from letters and diaries written by hundreds of soldiers who fought in the trenches at Gallipoli. The moving text is supported by photos from the Australian War Memorial. Includes full Roll of Honour of those who died at Gallipoli. *Due Apr*

Elizabeth and Leicester

by Sarah Gristwood Pb \$24.95
 Few relationships fire our imagination like that of Elizabeth I and her 'bonnie sweet Robin', the Earl of Leicester, Robert Dudley. The real story behind the romance of two of the most powerful people in Tudor history. *Due Apr*

Worldchanging: A User's Guide for the 21st Century

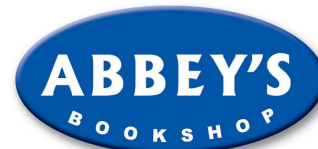
by Alex Steffen (Ed) \$29.95
 Written by a collaborative of leading thinkers across a diverse range of industries, this book demonstrates that the means for building a better future lie all around us. *Due Apr*



The Chilling Stars:

A New Theory of Climate Change

by Nigel Calder & Henrik Svensmark \$22.95
 Prize-winning science writer Calder and climate physicist Svensmark explain how the interplay of the clouds, Sun and cosmic rays (sub-atomic particles from exploded stars) has more effect on climate than manmade carbon dioxide. *Due Apr*



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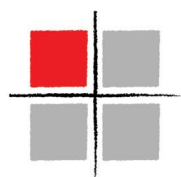


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