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Sat 18 - Sun 26 June

In addition to the sale at **Abbey's**, **Language Book Centre** and **Galaxy Bookshop**, the other bookshops comprising the Sydney Book Quarter - **Adyar Bookshop**, **Napoleon's of Sydney** and **Ashwood's Music and Books** - will also be having a sale, so you may be able to snare a bargain or two from them too!



Oxford Dictionary of ENGLISH
The World's Most Trusted Dictionaries

Simon Winchester
The Meaning of Everything
A History of the Oxford English Dictionary

Bonus offer see back page

**Queen's Birthday
Mon 13 June
Open 10am - 5pm**

**Closed for Stocktake
Tuesday 14 June
Abbey's and Language
Book Centre will close at
3pm for stocktake.**

Sydney Film Festival - offer for Abbey's Cardholders

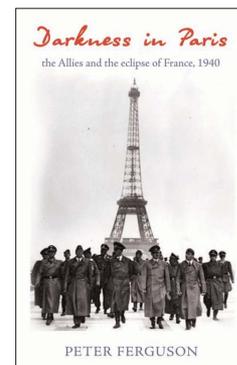
The Sydney Film Festival (10-25 June) will showcase over 170 of the best features, documentaries and short films from around the world. Don't miss *Yasmin*, the latest film from *The Full Monty* scriptwriter Simon Beaufoy. Archie Panjabi, (the annoying sister in *Bend it Like Beckham*), plays Yasmin, a free-spirited young Pakistani nurse, who starts every work day by jumping from her car into a field to swap her traditional garb for body-hugging Western gear. But after 9/11, a new rise of Islamophobia takes place and her boorish arranged-marriage husband is taken in for questioning, and her life is turned upside down. (George Street Cinemas, Mon 20 June at 6:15pm and Thur 23 June at 6:00pm). Abbey's Cardholders can see *Yasmin* at the discounted price of \$11 (Monday 20 June session only) when booking tickets through the Sydney Film Festival box office at (ph 9280 0611) and quoting "Abbey's". For full program and ticketing information, visit www.sydneyfilmfestival.org.



Darkness in Paris

The Allies and the Eclipse of France, 1940
Peter FERGUSON
343pp Tp \$35.00

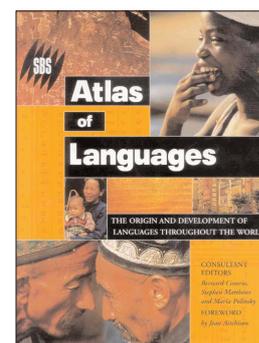
In May 1940, Germany invaded France and within six weeks had triumphantly seized control of Paris. The Allies' complacency was replaced with a sense of helplessness as they were defeated by a new kind of dynamic warfare; it seemed that the Nazis were unbeatable. While the British gathered around their radios to hear Churchill make defiant speeches, the French suffered invasion, defeat, occupation, 100,000 people killed, and the imposition of a Fascist regime. For many in the West, the fall of France seemed to be the greatest catastrophe suffered by civilisation since the fall of ancient Rome to the barbarians. Ferguson brilliantly brings to life the inside story of 1940 from Paris and London, in this narrative masterpiece about a time when Western civilisation seemed to hang in the balance.



SBS Atlas of Languages

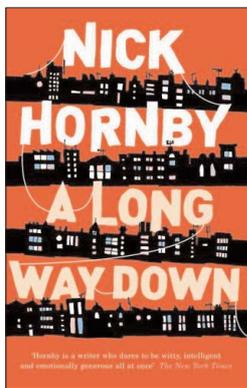
The Origin and Development of Languages Throughout the World
COMRIE, MATTHEWS & POLINSKY (eds)
224pp Hb \$59.95

This book provides a detailed account of the language families of each region of the world, and identifies and explains interesting and sometimes unique features of grammar and vocabulary. It also examines the archaeological, historical, cultural, social and political background where this has had an impact on the dissemination, development or decline of a language. The geographical distribution of languages - both historical and contemporary - is reflected in more than 30 unique full-colour maps with special boxed features on points of linguistic, cultural or historical interest. The writing systems of the world are also examined in detail. The evolution of more than 200 languages is explained and illustrated with specific examples, while photographs of ancient artefacts, manuscripts, monuments and statues all illustrate the use of various writing systems over the last 5,000 years. The book also addresses the issue of disappearing languages and identifies languages that are under threat of extinction.



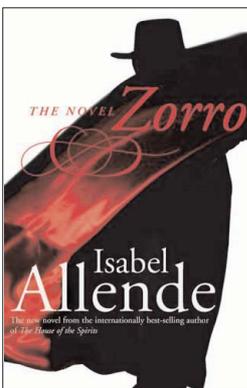
A Long Way Down

Nick HORNBY 272pp Tp \$29.95
 New Year's Eve at North London's most popular suicide spot. And four strangers are about to discover that doing away with yourself isn't quite the private act they'd each expected. Permatanned Martin Sharp is a disgraced breakfast TV presenter who had it all - the family, the pad, the great career - and wasted it away. Killing himself is Martin's logical response to an unliveable life. Maureen has to do it tonight, because of Matty being in the home. He was never able to do any of the normal things kids do, like walk or talk, and his loving mum can't cope any more. Half-crazed with heartbreak, loneliness, adolescent angst, seven Bacardi Breezers and two Special Brews, Jess is ready to jump, to fly off the roof. Finally, there's JJ - tall, cool, American, looks like a rock-star - who's weighed down with a heap of problems, and pizza. Four strangers, who moments before were convinced that they were alone and going to end it all that way, share out the pizza and begin to talk . . . Only to find that they have even less in common than first suspected.



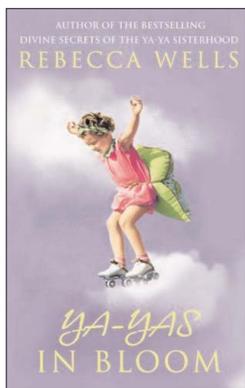
Zorro

Isabel ALLENDE 390pp Tp \$29.95
 Born in southern California late in the 18th century, Diego de la Vega is a child of two worlds. His father is an aristocratic Spanish military man turned landowner; his mother, a Shoshone warrior. Diego learns from his maternal grandmother, White Owl, the ways of her tribe, while receiving from his father lessons in the art of fencing and cattle branding. It is here, during Diego's childhood, filled with mischief and adventure, that he witnesses the brutal injustices dealt Native Americans by European settlers and first feels the inner conflict of his heritage. At the age of 16, he is sent to Barcelona for a European education. In a country chafing under the corruption of Napoleonic rule, he follows the example of his celebrated fencing master and joins La Justicia, a secret underground resistance movement devoted to helping the powerless and the poor. With these tumultuous times as backdrop, he falls in love, saves the persecuted and confronts for the first time a great rival who emerges from the world of privilege. Between California and Barcelona, the New World and the Old, the persona of Zorro is formed, a great hero is born and the legend begins.



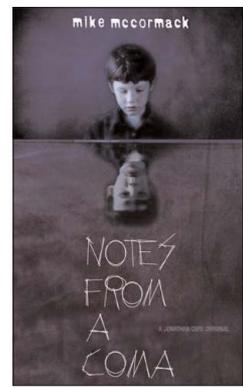
Ya-Yas in Bloom

Rebecca WELLS 258pp Pb \$27.95
The Sisterhood continues, as Wells reveals the roots of the Ya-Yas' friendship in the 1930s and roars through 60 years of marriage, child-raising and hair-raising family secrets. When four-year-old Teensy Whitman stuffs a pecan up her nose, she sets off the chain of events that lead Teensy, Caro, Vivi and Necie to become true sister-friends. Told in alternating voices of Vivi and the Petite Ya-Yas, Siddalee and Baylor Walker, as well as other denizens of Thornton, Louisiana, this book shows the Ya-Yas in love, and at war, with convention. Through crises of faith and hilarious lapses of parenting skills, brushes with alcoholism and glimpses of the dark reality of racial bigotry, the Ya-Ya values of unconditional loyalty, high style and Cajun sass shine through. But in the Ya-Yas' inimitable way, these four remarkable women also teach their children about the Mysteries: the wonder of snow in the Deep South, the possibility that humans are made of stars, and the belief that miracles do happen. And they need a miracle when old grudges and wounded psyches lead to a heartbreaking crime - and the dynamic web of sisterhood is the only safety net strong enough to endure.



Notes from a Coma

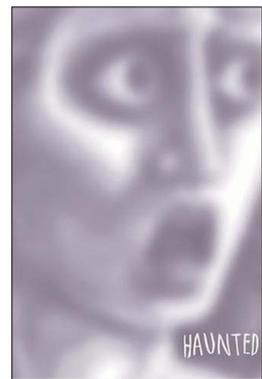
Mike McCORMACK 256pp Tp \$37.95
 This is a provocative tale, to say the least. At its heart is JJ O'Malley, a sleeping beauty of the postmodern kind. He is in a medically induced coma, a living experiment for a government project which wishes to explore the potential of "deep coma" as an option within the EU penal system for containing prisoners. JJ's coma goes online and Ireland tunes in as a nation to watch, elevating him to superstardom almost overnight. The grim reality that led him to this life-spurning existence is erased as new identities are created and imagined around his unmoving form. Five people tell us the truths of his life as they know it, dropping clues as to how he became the man he is(n't), both now and in the past, and led him to a catastrophic breakdown. The genius of guilt is amazingly constructed around JJ - a man who considers himself a "consumer durable". Bloody brilliant. This is an author to watch out for.



Cara

Haunted

Chuck PALAHNIUK 416pp Tp \$32.95
 Appallingly entertaining, these 23 stories showcase Palahniuk at his most provocative. The stories are told by the people who answered an ad headlined, "Artists' Retreat: Abandon your life for three months". The retreat is marketed as a place where life's distractions will be at a minimum, giving artists free reign to their inner masterpiece, but the reality is horrifyingly, hilariously different. Completely isolated, the heat, power and, most importantly, the food are in distressingly short supply. As personal desperation increases, so the stories themselves become more desperate. All is grist for the mill as the goal is to make themselves the hero of the inevitable play/movie/non-fiction blockbuster that will certainly be made from their plight . . . or will it? Post-gothic melodrama has never been so enjoyable! *due June*



Cara

The Singing

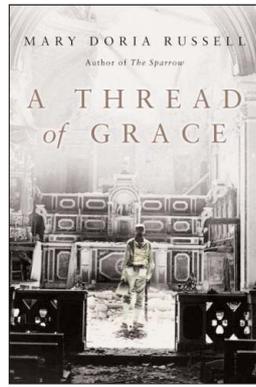
Stephanie BISHOP 206pp Pb \$26.95
 A love story bounded by the extremes of loss and desire, this book tells the story of two people who fail one another in the ravages of illness. Years later, they remain haunted by what they were unable to hold onto, and struggle to find a way to resolve the past. Examining the play of the past upon the present, Bishop questions how we are to live with the weight of memory and impossible desire; how much we can be expected to give in the name of love; and how we can ever be reconciled to what is lost.

A Sultan in Palermo

A Novel
 Tariq ALI 246pp Hb \$39.95
 The fourth novel in Ali's *Islam Quintet* is set in medieval Palermo, a Muslim city rivalling Baghdad and Cordoba in size and splendour. The year is 1153. The Normans are ruling Sicily, but Arab culture and language dominates the island and the court. Sultan Rujari (King Roger) surrounds himself with Muslim intellectuals, several concubines and an administration presided over by gifted eunuchs. The Bishops, expecting to be at the pinnacle of power, are angered by the decadence of the Court. Here, Ali charts the life and loves of the medieval cartographer, Muhammed al-Idrisi. Torn between his close friendship to the Sultan and his friends who are leaving the island or plotting a resistance to Norman rule, Idrisi finds temporary solace in the harem, but confronted by the common people of Noto and Catania, his conscience is troubled. A mythic and captivating novel in which pride, greed and lust intermingle with resistance and greatness.

A Thread of Grace

Mary Doria RUSSELL 430pp Tp \$32.95
8 September 1943. Italy has sued for peace with the Allies and 14-year-old Claudette Blum is learning Italian on the run. She and her father are among the thousands of Jewish refugees scrambling over the Alps to where they hope they will be safe at last. What they don't know is that tomorrow Italy will be under German occupation and about to become a vicious battleground between the Nazis, an increasingly confident resistance and the advancing Allies. Set against this dramatic historical backdrop, Russell's new novel recalls, through the lives of a handful of brilliantly-drawn characters, the little-known conspiracy of ordinary Italians who saved the lives of thousands of Jews during the final, desperate 20 months of the war.



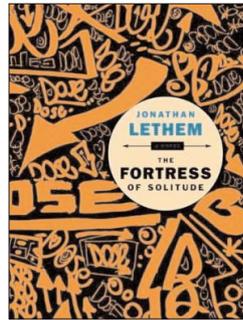
Dead Europe

Christos TSIOLKAS Pb \$22.95
Colm Toibin says this book "sets sharp realism against folk tale and fable, a world of hauntings and curses against a fiercely political portrait of a society. The energy in the writing, the pure fire in the narrative voice and the fearlessness of the tone make the novel immensely readable, as well as fascinating and original, and establish Christos Tsiolkas in the first rank of contemporary novelists." Not bad for what is essentially a rather modern vampire novel, one that moves in and out of time and space to bring us from the mountains of Greece, post-WWII to the inner city streets of 1960s Melbourne via a young Jewish boy. *due June*

Cara

The Fortress of Solitude

Jonathan LETHEM 511pp Pb \$24.95
From the funky-up, messed-up Brooklyn of the 1970s to the present day, this stunning novel spans 30 years in the life of two best friends, Dylan and Mingus, their families and an entire neighbourhood. From their stories comes the history of soul music, graffiti art, comic books, experimental film and 'rock writing'. This is a touching and intimate novel on an epic scale.

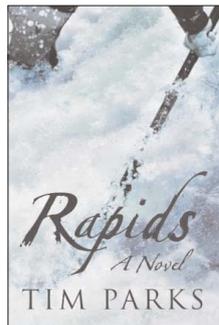


The Almond Picker

Simonetta AGNELLO HORNBY 268pp Tp \$29.95
In the village of Roccolomba, Sicily, La Mennulara ('the woman who gathers almonds') lies dead. For more than 40 years, she had been at the heart of the Afallipe family, one of the richest families in Roccolomba, first as a humble maidservant and then rising to manager of the family estates. Now, at her death, the gossip among the villagers is reaching fever pitch as each character begins to wonder just how La Mennulara managed to amass such a large fortune. Was she stealing from the Afallipe family or trying to save them? Will La Mennulara's death reveal her to be a monster or a saint?

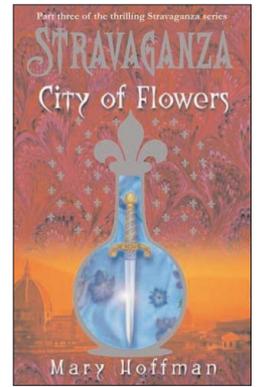
Rapids

A Novel
Tim PARKS 246pp Tp \$32.95
"Suddenly alone, you see the river's horizon come to meet you. There's a certain glassiness to it and as the roar of the rapid swells, the water grows more compact, it pulls more earnestly. Above and around, the mountains are quite still. Already you are past the point of no return. You must choose your line." In the dramatic landscape of the Italian Alps, a group of English canoeists arrive for an 'introduction to white water.' Camping, eating and paddling together, six adults and nine adolescents seem set to enjoy what their leader insists on calling a 'community experience.' Parks grippingly evokes the vertiginous thrill of entering a hostile environment, of being at the limit of control.



Stravaganza

City of Flowers
Mary HOFFMAN 489pp Pb \$15.95
The previous **Stravaganza** novels (**City of Masks** and **City of Stars**, both Pb \$15.95) have been sophisticated, well written and imaginative - so it is no surprise that #3 is every bit as good. Sky finds himself stravagating to Giglia, the Talian equivalent of our world's Florence, just as the de Chimici family is about to celebrate four marriages. Tensions between rival families are simmering, Duke Niccolo is hatching plans for gaining control of Bellezza in a devious manner, whilst not forgetting his vendetta against the Stravagante. This fine novel continues the stories of Luciano, Georgia and Falco, as well as setting the scene for a satisfying resolution. Fabulous!



Dance of the Assassins

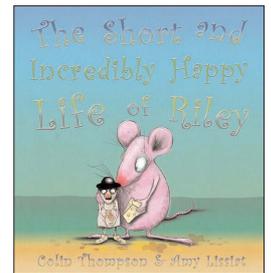
Herve JUBERT 352pp Pb \$19.95
This has been a bestseller for both adults and children in France and Europe. It is very sophisticated and maybe I wouldn't recommend it to a junior reader, as it does contain references to sex and violent crime, not to mention black magic and Satan. However, it is a flowing story, set in the future where Historic Cities are desirable holiday destinations. In the reconstruction of 19th century London, a horrific murder takes place and a team from the Criminal Investigation Bureau is called in - Roberta Morgenstern, white witch, and Clement Martineau, heir to a building fortune. With some very deft details and great pace, this is truly inventive and a fabulous read.

Ranger's Apprentice #2

The Burning Bridge
John FLANAGAN 263pp Pb \$14.95
If your youngster read **The Ruins of Gorlan** (Pb \$14.95 - one of the most action-packed novels of the year) over summer, then you will have to know the second exciting instalment in the adventures of Will, the Ranger's Apprentice, is now available! Having intercepted the battle plans of Morgarath, Will and Horace go on a mission to Celtica with Gilan, only to find something very sinister is happening there and the party has to split up. An entertaining and pacy read, plenty of action and character development and a thrilling can't-wait-for-the-next-book ending! Highly recommended. Ages 9-14.

The Short and Incredibly Happy Life of Riley

Colin THOMPSON & Amy LISSIAT 32pp Hb \$27.95
One of my colleagues suggested that this really belonged in the adult section - philosophy perhaps, or even popular psychology. It is the simple story of Riley the rat, contrasted against the desires of humans. Riley is perfectly happy and content with what he gets, but he doesn't want much - the occasional slug to eat, a stick with a pointed end to scratch the bits of his back he can't reach. People want what they haven't got; Riley lives in the moment and enjoys every second. With bold and detailed illustrations (and beautifully stitched, so the pages open properly!), this is a wonderful book. As another colleague said, it manages to encapsulate 2,000 years of thought. No age restrictions!



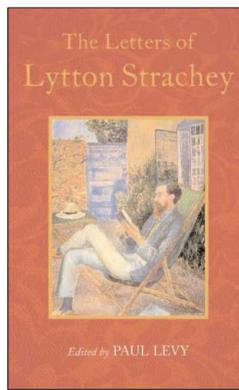
The Jungle Book

Mowgli's Story
Rudyard KIPLING 159pp Hb \$34.95
This beautifully illustrated (by Nicola Bayley) volume contains the three stories of Mowgli, from his first acceptance into the family of wolves which raise him from a toddler, to his adventures in the Jungle and his adoption back into human society. The stories have not lost their charm or vivacity since they were first published in 1894, and both adults revisiting the tales, or children being introduced for the first time to the original stories, will enjoy them. The detailed and realistic illustrations in this finely bound edition enhance and add to that delight!

The Letters of Lytton Strachey

Paul LEVY (ed) 496pp Hb \$75.00

This new selection of Strachey's letters is a fascinating chapter in the cultural life of 20th century Britain. The thousands of letters he wrote retain their vitality to this day; discussing changes in morals, the writing of history, literature and philosophy, politics, war and peace, and the advent of modernism. They are a literary treasure-trove of the man and his world. The sheer breadth of his correspondence is astonishing, beginning with precocious childhood letters and including letters to Leonard and Virginia Woolf, Maynard Keynes and other members of the Bloomsbury Group, as well as love letters to Duncan Grant and, of course, Dora Carrington.

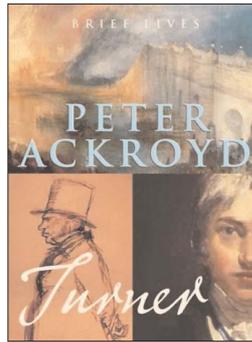


Turner

Brief Lives II

Peter ACKROYD 144pp Hb \$39.95

James Mallord William Turner (1775-1851) was a Londoner through and through. Though he travelled widely, he never strayed far from the banks of his home river. He lived by the Thames - in cottages in Hammersmith and Isleworth - and he died by it, in a rented house in Chelsea. He was both the most admired and the most derided painter of his time. His vision soon outran the taste and even the understanding of his contemporaries, as he began to experiment in pure forms of light and colour, producing masterpieces of impassioned tonality that were still unsold at the time of his death. Ackroyd's elegant and succinct biography reveals the genius of the artist and the abiding qualities of the man. In the process, it describes Turner's London and the singular characteristics of a Cockney visionary who was, perhaps, the greatest and most original of all English painters. *due June*

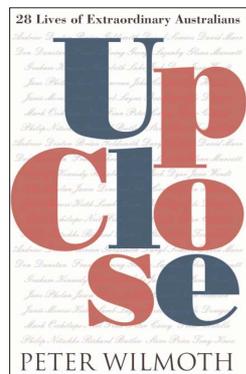


Up Close

28 Lives of Extraordinary Australians

Peter WILMOTH 313pp Tp \$30.00

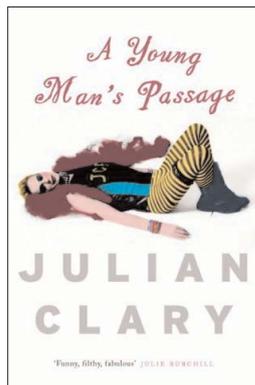
Highly respected *Age* journalist Peter Wilmoth is known for writing penetrating and insightful profiles of some of Australia's most intriguing characters. For 25 years, he has been skilfully drawing out the famous and the infamous, and, at last, many of his best-known pieces appear together in one volume. Here he takes a very personal look at 28 Australians who are renowned as entertainers, politicians, artists and heroes, as well as ordinary people who have found themselves in extraordinary circumstances, such as Bali bombing survivor Hanabeth Luke. Subjects include Andrew Denton, Peter Costello, Jana Wendt, Layne Beachley, Neil Finn and Peter Carey. Sympathetic, yet unflinchingly honest, these profiles expose the human beings behind the public masks and reveal them in all their complexity.



A Young Man's Passage

Julian CLARY 320pp Tp \$32.95

A long way from the usual ghosted celebrity autobiography, this is Clary's debut as a writer of talent. Julian has led a unique life. From boarding school, where unholy monks taught him the rudiments of glamour, alternative living and brutality, through to art school in London while the punk and alternative comedy revolution was in full swing, finding out by practical trial and error whether he was gay or straight, his huge success and fame as probably the most high profile gay man in the country and, during the same period, the pain of losing those close to him and the high price of his fame.

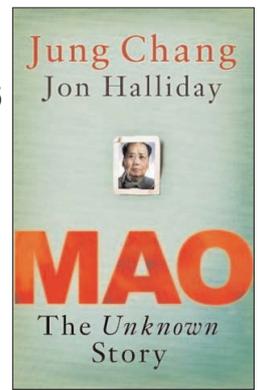


Mao

The Unknown Story

Jung CHANG & Jon HALLIDAY Hb \$59.95

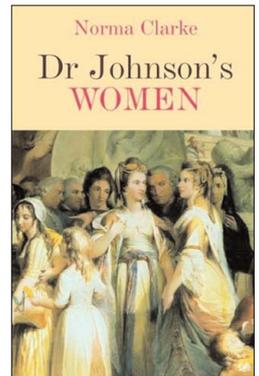
This groundbreaking biography of Mao Tse-tung is based on a decade of research. This includes interviews with many of Mao's close circle in China (who have never before spoken publicly) and with virtually everyone outside China who had significant dealings with him. It is full of startling revelations, exploding the myth of the Long March and showing a completely unknown Mao. Not driven by idealism or ideology, it was his intimate and intricate relationship with Stalin going back to the 1920s which ultimately brought him to power. He welcomed Japanese occupation of much of China and he schemed, poisoned and blackmailed to get his way. After he conquered China in 1949, his secret goal was to dominate the world, and in chasing this dream, he caused the deaths of 38 million people in the greatest famine in history. Combining meticulous history with the story-telling style of *Wild Swans* (Pb \$24.95), this biography documents Mao's roller-coaster life as he intrigued and fought every step of the way to force through his unpopular decisions. Enter - if you dare - the shadowy chambers his court, eavesdrop on the drama in its hidden recesses. Mao's character and the enormity of his behaviour towards his wives, mistresses and children are unveiled for the first time. *due June*



Dr Johnson's Women

Norma CLARKE 288pp Tp \$40.00

Dr Johnson's friendship with the leading women writers of the day was an important feature of his life (and theirs). He was willing to treat women as intellectual equals and to promote their careers: something ignored by his main biographer, James Boswell. This book investigates the lives and writings of six leading female authors whom Johnson knew well: Elizabeth Carter, Charlotte Lennox, Elizabeth Montagu, Hester Thrale, Hannah More and Fanny Burney. It explores their relationships with Johnson, with each other and with the world of letters. It shows what it was like to be a woman writer in 'the Age of Johnson'. It is often assumed that women writers in the 18th century suffered the same restrictions and obstacles that confronted their Victorian successors. Clarke shows that this was by no means the case. Highlighting the opportunities available to women of talent, she makes clear just how impressive and varied their achievements were.



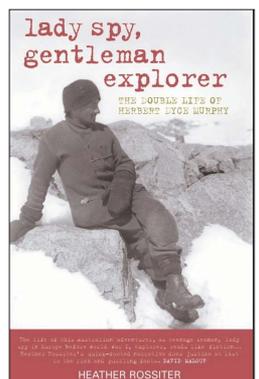
Lady Spy, Gentleman Explorer

The Double Life of Herbert Dyce Murphy

Heather ROSSITER

407pp Pb \$24.95

Herbert Dyce Murphy inspired Patrick White's *The Twyborn Affair*; he appears as a woman in one of E Phillips Fox's best-known paintings and he prevented Douglas Mawson's Antarctic expedition from imploding. This is the story of one man's fascinating double life - a gentleman adventurer who also dressed in drag to spy for British Military Intelligence in pre-WWI Europe. In 1911, Murphy sailed to the Antarctic with the Mawson expedition for a gruelling exploration of the frozen continent, a trip of terrible hardship which claimed lives - probably unnecessarily - as this controversial view of Mawson demonstrates. Brilliantly researched and beautifully written, Rossiter gives Murphy's unforgettable story its due at last.

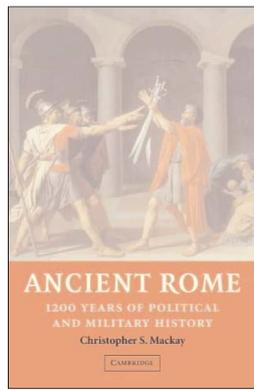


Ancient Rome

1,200 Years of Political and Military History

Christopher MACKAY 272pp Hb \$75.00

This volume is a short and comprehensive political and military history of ancient Rome, from the origins of the city in the Italian Iron Age until the deposition of the last emperor in 476 AD. Outlining Rome's absorption of the Italian peninsula, Mackay explains how this conquest provided the Romans with the manpower that allowed them to conquer the Mediterranean in a mere half-century. He details how the military responsibilities of empire undermined the political institutions of the Republic and how the Imperial adoption of Christianity as the state religion, as well as the military and economic pressures of the third and fourth centuries, eventually led to the downfall of the Western empire through invasion. Illustrated with artworks from Rome's long history, this volume serves as a timely and up-to-date overview of one of the most extraordinary civilisations in human history.



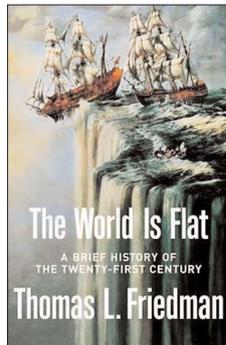
The World is Flat

A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century

Thomas FRIEDMAN

496pp Hb \$49.95

In this new book, the award-winning *New York Times* columnist demystifies our brave new world, making sense of the often bewildering global scene. What will future historians say was the most crucial development? The attacks on the World Trade Centre on 9/11 and the Iraq war? Perhaps the convergence of technology and events that allowed India, China and many other countries to become part of the global supply chain for services and manufacturing? Friedman explains how the 'flattening' of the world happened at the dawn of the 21st century; what it means to countries, companies, communities and individuals; and how governments and societies can, and must, adapt.



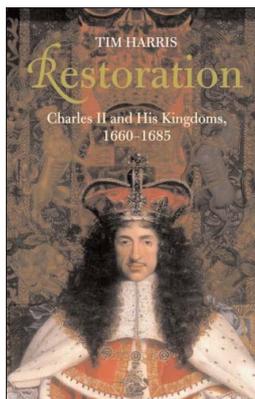
Restoration

Charles II and His Kingdoms, 1660-1685

Tim HARRIS

528pp Hb \$65.00

The interplay among Charles's three kingdoms - England, Ireland and Scotland - was crucial in restoring the Stuart monarchy, although the problems of one kingdom impinged on the politics of the others. It is no accident that the term 'Whig' referred to a radical Scottish Presbyterian, and 'Tory' to an Irish-Catholic cattle thief: each party was fierce in their insults of the other. The king had also fallen down on his duty to defend the true (Protestant) religion. Not only was his brother and heir a Roman Catholic, but so too was his French mistress. The coffee houses, where news was disseminated and debated, were seen as places of dangerous sedition; rumour was to play its part in destabilising the regime, especially during the hysteria induced by Titus Oates's revelations. Desperately insecure, Royal recovery in the 1680s can be attributed to the crown's determination to win back public opinion, through press and pulpit, and by infiltrating parliament and local government with sympathetic supporters. This book traces the fate of the monarchy from Charles II's triumphant accession in 1660 to the growing discontent of the 1680s. Harris looks beyond the popular image of Restoration England revelling in its freedom from the austerity of Puritan rule under a merry monarch, reconstructing the human tragedy of Restoration politics.

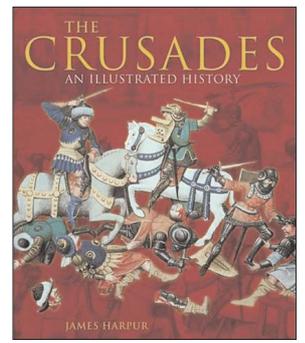


The Crusades

An Illustrated History

James HARPUR 128pp Hb \$39.95

During the Middle Ages, the titanic clash between the Christian and Muslim worlds that centred on Palestine and lasted for some 200 years was one of the most unforgettable episodes in Western history. For the crusaders, the prize was the possession of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, which for hundreds of years had shimmered in the minds of European Christians as the most sacred place on earth. For the Muslims, on the other hand, the crusaders were not only the infidel, but a coarse, violent brigade of invaders - undoubtedly courageous and virile - but nonetheless lacking the refinements of civilisation. Drawing on contemporary accounts, the fruits of up-to-date scholarship and a wide range of illustrations, this book captures the excitement and drama of the battles, sieges, gruelling marches and surprise ambushes. It unravels the webs of politics and ever-shifting alliances between the crusaders and Muslims; it conjures up the heroes and villains, and what life was really like. With maps to pinpoint the routes and places, a glossary of the leading personalities and a chronology of events, this is the perfect one-volume guide to the wars that became a legend.



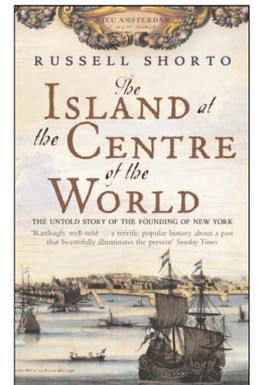
The Island at the Centre of the World

The Untold Story of Dutch Manhattan and the Founding of New York

Russell SHORTO

506pp Pb \$24.95

Through the story of the bitter struggle between two men, Peter Stuyvesant and Adriaen Van den Donck, is told the vivid history of the wilderness island that became the most powerful city in the world: Manhattan. It was situated on a perfect natural harbour at the mouth of a great river leading into a huge new land. This book returns to the origins of New York's extraordinary history. It tells how a wilderness populated only by wolves and native tribes became the melting pot from which developed the free-trade, multicultural and upwardly-mobile spirit of New York that in turn would shape the whole American nation.



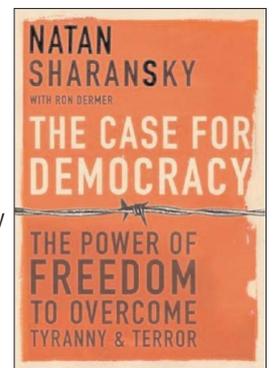
The Case for Democracy

The Power of Freedom to Overcome Tyranny and Terror

Natan SHARANSKY

303pp Hb \$44.00

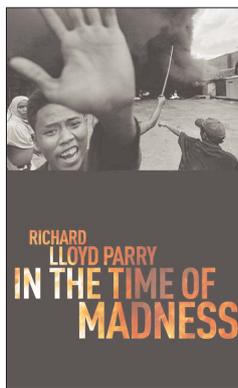
Sharansky believes that the truest expression of democracy is the ability to walk into the middle of a town square and say whatever you like without fear of arrest or imprisonment. He should know. A dissident in the Soviet Union, he was jailed for nine years for asserting his right to speak freely. During that time, he reinforced his moral conviction that democracy above all others was a political virtue to be protected and enhanced, a prerequisite for civilised society. Since his release and emigration to Israel in 1986, he has been a deputy prime minister of the Knesset, leading the party of Russian immigrants, and is now Minister for Jerusalem. He has been pilloried by those who say he has been a disappointment as a liberal activist. He says he has been as consistent as he has been stubborn: tyranny, whether in the Soviet Union or the Middle East, must always be made to bow before Democracy. This passionately argued book makes the case that all rights and freedoms stem from democracy. With democracy robustly in place, societies will thrive and nations should be respected. Its absence is a fatal moral flaw that cannot be ignored.



In the Time of Madness

Richard Lloyd PARRY Tp \$39.95

In 1965 and 66, madness seized Indonesia. Half a million people were killed as the old president, Sukarno, lost power to Suharto. 30 years later, Suharto began to lose his grip. The violence began in Borneo (Dayaks against Madurese) and spread to Sumatra and East Timor. The Dayaks believe in magic, in cutting off and collecting the heads of their enemies, and eating their hearts. (They also love English football: Man U and Spurs). In Sumatra, Parry watches students demonstrating against Suharto and being shot by the police. 1,200 people are killed in Jakarta alone and looters are everywhere as it goes up in flames. Suharto eventually resigned in May 1998, but the violence continued. When the author returned in the following spring, there was fighting all over Indonesia, Muslims against Christians and East Timorese against Indonesian militias. In the jungle, he found the Falantil guerrillas, fighting for independence, and when the militias' violence escalates to massacre, he is there also, reeking of smoke, blood and fear.



The Fall of Baghdad

Jon Lee ANDERSON 389pp Tp \$35.00

Whatever else is written about the Iraqi people and the fall of Saddam, this will remain the classic book about the Iraq War. No subject has become more hotly politicised than the toppling of Saddam Hussein's regime, and so a thick fog of propaganda has obscured the reality of what the Iraqi people have endured under Saddam and are enduring now. Anderson has created an astonishing portrait of humanity in extremis, a work of great wisdom, human empathy and moral clarity.

The Nehrus and the Gandhis

An Indian Dynasty

Tariq ALI 368pp Pb \$25.00

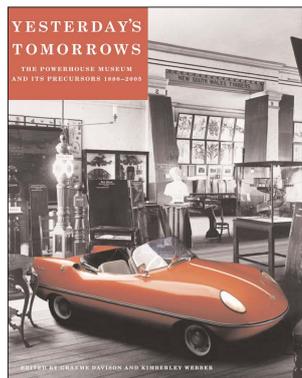
The Nehrus are a dynasty without precedent in the modern world; nowhere else and at no other time in recent history has a single family wielded such enduring and pervasive power over the country and the electorate that they serve. From Jawaharlal Nehru to his daughter, Indira Gandhi, and from there, via Sanjay and Rajiv to - most recently - Sonia, this remarkable family have consistently established both the parameters and rhetoric of India's political development. In the 1980s, Ali made several trips to India, meeting a wide range of political and public figures, including Mrs Gandhi and leaders of both the Congress and Opposition parties. First published in 1985, Ali has updated this work to include commentary on the most recent chapters in India's political history. It remains as relevant as ever, offering an intricate and revealing portrait of power, as seen through the continued rise - and eyes - of one family.

Yesterday's Tomorrows

The Powerhouse Museum and its Precursors, 1880-2005

Graeme DAVISON & Kimberley WEBBER (eds) 288pp Pb \$54.95

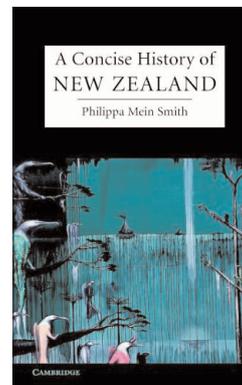
This magnificent book does not provide the traditional, chronological history of a museum. Instead, it traces the many interwoven stories about people, objects and events that have shaped the museum and its collection. It links the history of the Powerhouse with the wider histories of museums, material culture, technology, design, the city and the nation. It tells little-known stories about the museum's role in researching essential oils and in encouraging the use of native timbers, as well as relating the inside story of museum icons such as the No 1 Locomotive, the Boulton and Watt steam engine, and the Strasburg Clock.



A Concise History of New Zealand

Philippa MEIN SMITH 302pp Pb \$36.95

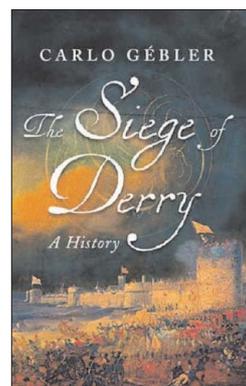
New Zealand was the last major land mass, other than Antarctica, to be settled by humans. In this new account of New Zealand's history, Mein Smith considers this rugged and dynamic land from its break from Gondwana 80 million years ago to the beginning of the 21st century. The book highlights the effects of the country's smallness and isolation, from late settlement by Polynesian voyagers, very late colonisation and settlement by Europeans - and the interactions that made these people Maori and Pakeha - to struggles over land and efforts through time to manage global forces. This is a history that places New Zealand in its global and regional context, linked to Britain, immersed in the Pacific and part of Australasia. Distinctively, this book unravels the ways in which key moments have contributed to the founding of the country's national myths.



The Siege of Derry

Carlo GEBLER 364pp Hb \$49.95

The Siege of Derry is one of the key flashpoints in the troubled history of Ireland and Britain. In 1688, William of Orange had claimed the English throne, forcing the Catholic James II to flee to Ireland, from where he hoped to mount his comeback. In December of that year, his troops attempted to take over the Protestant city of Derry. To the cry of "No Surrender", the apprentice boys closed the city gates to James' army and the 105-day siege began. The besiegers used cannon and mortar to shell the defenders - with terrifying results - and conditions became desperate as the city began to run out of food. Gebler's book thrillingly describes both the events leading up to the siege and the heroic struggles within and outside Derry as the five-month battle waged.



Diggerspeak

The Language of Australia at War

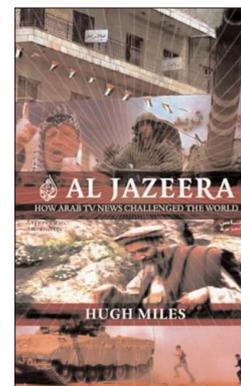
Amanda LAUGESSEN 205pp Pb \$34.95

Wars have been highly significant in the development of Australian English, generating new words and meanings. Rather than a collection of military slang or jargon, this monograph draws together the diverse words produced and used by ordinary Australians at war, and examines their ongoing and contemporary usage. The language of Australians at war reveals a great deal about the experiences and understandings of war, and is also a fascinating insight into Australian culture and values.

Al Jazeera

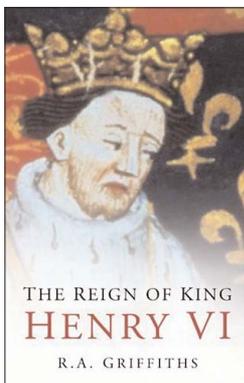
Hugh MILES 438pp Pb \$32.95

With more than 50 million viewers, Al Jazeera is one of the most widely watched news channels in the world. It is also one of the most controversial. Set up by the eccentric Emir of Qatar, who turned a failed BBC Arabic television project into an Arab news channel, Al Jazeera quickly became a household name after September 11 by delivering some of the biggest scoops in television history, including airing a taped speech from Osama bin Laden. Lambasted as a mouthpiece for Al Qaeda, little is actually known about Al Jazeera and its operations. Financed by one of the wealthiest countries in the world, it quickly established itself as the premiere news channel in the Islamic world by covering events that Arabs cared about in a way they had never seen before. However, accusations of ties to Al Qaeda continue to plague it. Their journalists have been accused of spying for everyone from Mossad to Saddam Hussein, sometimes simultaneously. This is the story behind the Arab news channel that makes the news.



The Reign of King Henry VI

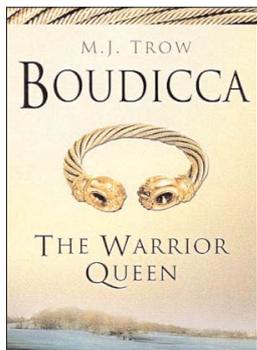
R A GRIFFITHS 968pp Pb \$39.95
Henry VI is the youngest monarch ever to have ascended the English throne and the only English king to have been acknowledged by the French as rightfully King of France. His reign was the third longest since the Norman Conquest and he came close to being declared a saint. This masterly study, unparalleled in its informative detail, examines the entire span of the king's reign, from the death of Henry V in 1422, when Henry was only nine months old, to the period of his insanity at the beginning of the Wars of the Roses and his dethronement in 1461, preceding his murder 10 years later.



Boudicca

The Warrior Queen

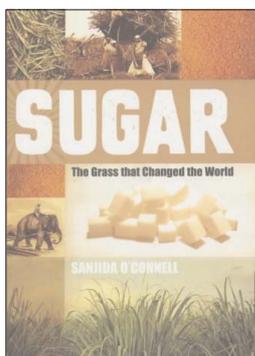
M J TROW 250pp Pb \$22.95
"She was tall and terrible, with a great mass of red hair to her hips....She carried a spear to instil terror in all who saw her." - Dio Cassius. In AD 61, Roman governor Suetonius Paullinus, a veteran of mountain warfare in Africa, led the 14th and 20th legions to a crushing defeat of Boudicca's revolt. The defeat of Boudicca in effect made the Roman occupation of Britain possible - a Boudicca victory would at the very least have seriously delayed occupation and possibly altered the whole course of the country's history. Among the British, women could inherit land, rule whole areas, lead armies. Boudicca did all three. And what made her revolt so terrifying was that she united other tribes under her and all but destroyed Rome's power base in the country. Surviving Paullinus's crushing defeat of her troops, she is alleged to have taken poison, along with her daughters, but the Britons mourned her deeply and gave her a costly burial. Speeches attributed to her by the Romans on the eve of battle illustrate that they were in awe of her. Not for nothing does her bronze effigy, sculpted by Thomas Thorneycroft, stare out from its pedestal on Westminster Bridge, her back to the city she once burned to the ground.



Sugar

The Grass that Changed the World

Sanjida O'CONNELL 246pp Hb \$45.00
The story of sugar is a story of life and death. As glucose, it is the fuel that drives us. It also contributes to obesity, diabetes and heart disease. Sugar's rise in popularity led to the global spread of slavery, the destruction of indigenous cultures, the proliferation of colonial economies and the growth of multinationals. Sugar is a part of everyone's daily diet, lusted after and craved, at once a luxury and a necessity. It is produced in 121 countries worldwide and global production exceeds 120 million tonnes annually. We are literally drowning in sugar. In the last decade, consumption in the West has increased by a third, and American teenagers eat 34 teaspoons of sugar every day.



The End of Faith

Religion, Terror, and the Future of Reason

Sam HARRIS 336pp Hb \$34.95
This important and timely book delivers a startling analysis of the clash of faith and reason in today's world. Harris offers a vivid historical tour of mankind's willingness to suspend reason in favour of religious beliefs, even when those beliefs are used to justify harmful behaviour and sometimes heinous crimes. He asserts that in the shadow of weapons of mass destruction, we can no longer tolerate views that pit one true god against another. Most controversially, he argues that we cannot afford moderate lip service to religion, an accommodation that only blinds us to the real perils of fundamentalism. While warning against the encroachment of organised religion into world politics, Harris also draws on new evidence from neuroscience and insights from philosophy to explore spirituality as a biological, brain-based need. He calls on us to invoke that need in taking a secular, humanistic approach to solving the problems of this world.

Reversing Sail (236pp Pb \$49.95) by Michael Gomez examines the global unfolding of the African Diaspora, the migrations and dispersals of the people of Africa, from antiquity to the modern period. Their exploits, challenges and struggles over a wide expanse of time are discussed in ways that link, as well as differentiate, past and present circumstances.

David Christian's **Maps of Time** (642pp Pb \$43.00) is an exercise in 'big history' which attempts to unite natural history and human history in a single, grand narrative. It begins with the Big Bang and moves through the origins of galaxies, stars and planets (including our own) and on to the origin and evolution of life, before discussing the rise of humans, the invention of agriculture and the history of mankind over the past 6,000 years.

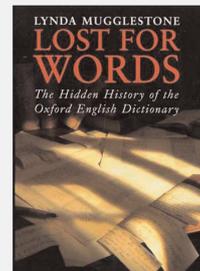
China Marches West (725pp Hb \$70.00) by Peter Perdue chronicles in English for the first time the little-known story of the conquests by the Qing empire in the 17th and 18th centuries. He explains why the Qing, unlike all previous Chinese dynasties, were able to achieve enduring domination in the region, thereby creating the China we know today.

In **What is Gnosticism?** (343pp Pb \$37.00), Karen King tries to answer the question by disentangling modern historiography from the Christian discourse of orthodoxy and heresy that has pervaded - and distorted - the story. She shows how historians have been misled by ancient Christian polemicists who attacked Gnostic beliefs as a "dark double" against which the new faith could define itself.

Michael Palmer's **Command at Sea** (377pp Hb \$59.95) observes five centuries of dramatic encounters under sail and steam and the attempts by admirals to find new technologies which would enable them to assert centralised control over their fleets through the "fog of war". He shows that even as new technologies have improved their communications, other technologies have shrunk their windows of decision.

Medicine in the Days of the Pharaohs (276pp Hb \$54.00) by Bruno Halioua and Bernard Ziskind provides a comprehensive account of pharaonic medicine that is illuminated by what modern science has discovered about the lives (and deaths) of people from many walks of life - farmers, fishermen, miners, soldiers, scribes and priests, bakers and prostitutes.

In **Lost for Words: The Hidden History of the Oxford English Dictionary** (273pp Hb \$59.95), Lynda Mugglestone uses the proofs of the first edition and the letters of the people who wrote them to reveal the arguments and controversies over meanings, definitions and pronunciation, and over which words and senses were acceptable - and which were not.



The New Cambridge Paragraph Bible with the Apocrypha (1,868pp Hb \$150) aims to give the reader, as closely as possible, the exact text that the King James translators themselves decided on, but which was far from perfectly realised in the first edition. Attention has also been paid to the presentation of the text - spelling, punctuation and formatting - to make it as readable and comprehensible as possible without falsifying the essentials of the translator's work. The editor of this magnificent book has also written **A Textual History of the King James Bible** (387pp Hb \$175), which offers an essential summary of this complex textual history. These two books are also available as a set for \$299.

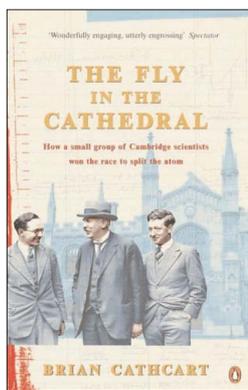
Damascus: A History (386pp Hb \$149.00) by Ross Burns traces the history of this colourful, significant and complex city through its physical development, from the city's emergence in around 7000 BC through the changing cavalcade of Aramaean, Persian, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Mongol and French rulers right up to the end of Turkish control in 1918. It looks particularly at the interplay between the Western and Eastern influences that have provided Damascus with such a rich past, and how this perfectly encapsulates the forces that have played over the Middle East as a whole. *Dave*

The Fly in the Cathedral

Brian CATHCART 308pp Pb \$26.95

In the late 1920s, what was known about the atomic nucleus was very limited, to say the least. It was known to be very small (like a fly in a cathedral) and difficult to penetrate with existing tools. To remedy this situation, Ernest Rutherford, head of the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge, set two of his researchers, John Cockcroft and Ernest Walton, the task of building a device powerful enough to let them probe the atomic nucleus. This book tells how they did it - with relatively simple equipment and despite competition from three American groups. It is a very enjoyable read, with an interesting cast of characters and a compelling narrative.

Dave

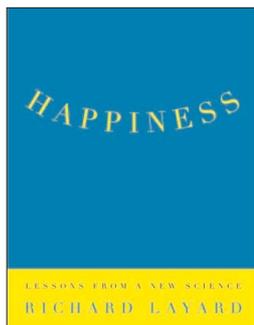


Happiness

Lessons from a New Science

Richard LAYARD 310pp Hb \$45.00

In this landmark book, Layard shows that there is a paradox at the heart of our lives. Most people want more income. Yet as societies become richer, they do not become happier. This is not just anecdotally true, it is the story told by countless pieces of scientific research. We now have sophisticated ways of measuring how happy we are, and all the evidence shows that on average people have grown no happier in the last 50 years, even as average incomes have more than doubled. In fact, the First World has more depression, alcoholism and crime than 50 years ago. This paradox is true of Britain, the United States, continental Europe and Japan. What is going on?



Hunting the Double Helix

Anna MEYER

240pp Pb \$26.95

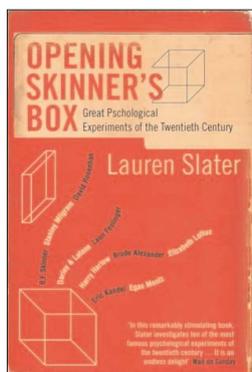
Some mysteries were never meant to be solved - or were they? Meyer provides a fascinating glimpse into one of the newest and most intriguing areas of scientific research. Any DNA that still exists in the remains of living things after their death is called "ancient DNA". The DNA could be from an organism that died a few days ago, or from an extinct species, such as the Australian thylacine or the New Zealand moa, or from one that died tens of thousands of years ago, such as a Neanderthal or a mammoth. That DNA can survive for such a long time is one thing, but there is much more to it than that. The study of ancient DNA has been the key to some of the most amazing discoveries. There's a whole smorgasbord of stories to sample - tales of murder, deadly disease, mysterious disappearances and even the origins of human life.

Opening Skinner's Box

Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century

Lauren SLATER 276pp Pb \$24.95

A century can be understood in many ways - in terms of its inventions, its crimes or its art. Slater sets out to investigate the 20th century through a series of 10 fascinating, witty and sometimes shocking accounts of its key psychological experiments. Starting with the founder of modern scientific experimentation, B F Skinner, she traces the evolution of the last hundred years' most pressing concerns - free will, authoritarianism, violence, conformity and morality. Previously buried in academic textbooks, these often daring experiments are now seen in their full context and told as stories, rich in plot, wit and character.



The 2005 *Aventis Science Prize* has been won by Phillip Ball's **Critical Mass: How One Thing Leads to Another** (Tp \$32.95). The other shortlisted titles were **Matters of Substance: Drugs - and why Everyone's a User** (Hb \$39.95) by Griffith Edwards, **The Human Mind: And How to Make the Most of It** (Pb \$24.95) by Robert Winston, **Why Life Speeds Up As You Get Older** (Hb \$59.95) by Douwe Draaisma, **The Earth: An Intimate History** (Pb \$27.95) and **The Ancestor's Tale: A Pilgrimage to the Dawn of Life** (Hb \$65.00) by Richard Dawkins.

Assembling the Tree of Life (576pp Hb \$125.00) edited by Joel Cracraft and Michael Donoghue, documents the groundbreaking advances in our understanding of the evolutionary history of living organisms. With contributions by almost 100 systematic biologists, it summarises current understanding of phylogenetic relationships within and among the major evolutionary branches of life.

Linda Simon's **Dark Light** (Pb \$23.65) tells the story of the early days of electricity in America. At the same time that Americans were using electrotherapy to treat everything from depression to digestive problems, they were very reluctant to have their homes wired. This contradiction is the basis of this unique study.

In **On the Wing** (304pp Hb \$54.95), Alan Tennant tells the story of his attempt to radio-track the trans-American migration of the peregrine falcon - something that had never been tried before.

Deep Space: The NASA Mission Reports (432pp Pb \$59.95) covers the NASA missions aimed at exploring the outer solar system. It relates the missions of Pioneer and Voyager, Galileo and Cassini and others, and contains a double-sided DVD with videos on one side and publications and images on the other.

Rocketman (301pp Hb \$54.00) by Nancy Conrad and Howard Klausner tells the story of Pete Conrad, who washed out of the Mercury program, only to come roaring back and fly two Gemini missions before commanding Apollo 12 and the first Skylab mission.

In **The Prism and the Pendulum** (244pp Pb \$32.95), Robert Crease looks at the 10 most beautiful experiments in the history of science and explains what they tell us about the fundamental nature of the world and how science works.

Archives of the Universe (695pp Hb \$70.00) edited by Marcia Bartusiak tells the history of astronomy through 100 primary documents - from the Maya's first recorded efforts to predict the cycles of Venus to the 1998 paper that posited an accelerating universe.

In **Food, Inc.** (243pp Pb \$29.95), Peter Pringle shows how both sides in the war over genetically modified foods have made false promises and engaged in scaremongering. He tries to cut through the hype and give a fair hearing to both sides.

Bones, Stones and Molecules (402pp Pb \$60.50) by David Cameron and Colin Groves examines current evidence and presents original insights into the anatomical, cultural and molecular evolution of early and modern humans. The book focuses on the two main competing hypotheses of human origins - the "Out of Africa" model and the "Multiregional" model.

The Ape in the Tree (288pp Hb \$58.00) by Alan Walker and Pat Shipman offers a unique insider's perspective on the unfolding discovery of a crucial link in our evolution, Proconsul, a fossil ape whimsically named after a performing chimpanzee called Consul. Also on the ape trail is **The Hunt for the Dawn Monkey: Unearthing the Origins of Monkeys, Apes and Humans** (348pp Hb \$59.95) by Chris Beard, chronicling the saga of two centuries of scientific exploration in search of anthropoid origins, from the early work of Georges Cuvier, the father of palaeontology, to the latest discoveries in Asia, Africa and North America's Rocky Mountains.

In **The 21st Century Brain** (344pp Hb \$59.95), Steven Rose argues that understanding the human brain requires that we explore the evolutionary route by which brains emerged, as well as the process in which individual brains develop from a single egg to the hundred billion nerve cells and hundred trillion connections between them. Against this background he asks the challenging question: What does the future hold for the human brain?

Atlas: The Ultimate Weapon (308pp Pb \$49.95) by Chuck Walker tells the story of the Atlas rocket, America's first (ICBM), and the workhorse of the civil and military space programs since the late 1950s.

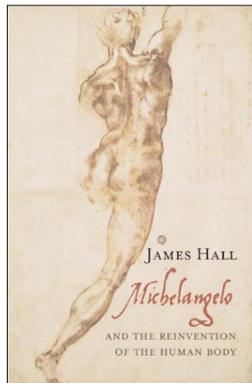
Dave

Michelangelo

And the Reinvention of the Human Body

James HALL 252pp Hb \$79.95

Michelangelo's art is exhilarating, but also bewildering. What is the source of its incomparable power? In this imaginative and detailed study, art critic James Hall explores some of the major puzzles - the un-maternal nature of Michelangelo's Madonnas and their lack of responsiveness; his concern with colossal scale and size; the way that anatomical dissections affected his attitude to the human body and the placing of solitary, heroic figures against a background of troubling crowds. In the process, he arrives at a more precise appreciation of the body language of Michelangelo's figures and offers new explanations of many of the most familiar sculptures, paintings and drawings, including the statue of David and the narratives of the Sistine Chapel ceiling, the complex iconography of the Medici tombs in the Sacristy of San Lorenzo and his powerful late images of the dead Christ. Hall dispels the notion of an artist-superman possessed of titanic mental and physical powers, embodying the sublime spirit of his age. He also topples the long-held view of Michelangelo as brilliant, but unbalanced, obsessed with the male nude. Instead, Hall redefines Michelangelo as the first artist to put the human body on centre stage, giving his study a profound relevance to our own time, in which artists, film-makers, writers and scholars are so fixated on 'the body'. If we really want to understand our own culture, Hall argues, we need to understand Michelangelo.



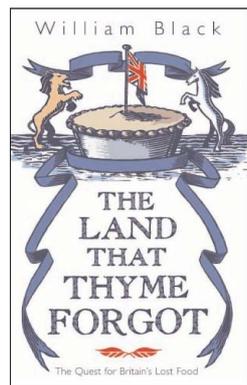
The Land that Thyme Forgot

The Quest for Britain's Lost Food

William BLACK 329pp Hb \$48.95

The author is Sophie Grigson's partner and a fine restaurateur, ideally suited to take a gastronomic journey around the UK to find and define the heart and soul (or is that sole?) of Britain through the food the British eat. Some of the lost traditions of British cuisine should definitely stay forgotten, but there are culinary miscellanea disappearing now which ought to be nurtured and cherished for their names alone. (Singing Hinnies or solomongundy anyone?) Written in his typically friendly style, the affectionate vigour with which he waxes lyrical is an absolute treat. Those interested in either food or travel will enjoy this immensely.

Cara



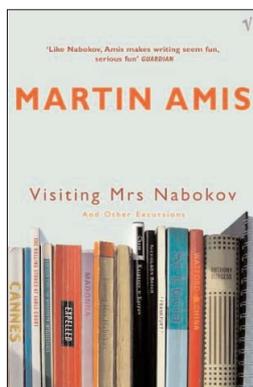
Visiting Mrs Nabokov and Other Excursions

Martin AMIS 274pp Pb \$24.95

This collection of Amis's journalism from the 1980s presents as a kind of literary and cultural time capsule. His electric portraits of contemporaries and mentors are fascinating, particularly that of John Updike - warts and all. His views on sex without Madonna, expulsion from school, a Rolling Stones gig that should never have been allowed, do seem a trifle orthodox, but his clarity of thought when exposing the double-think of nuke-speak in New York is very welcome. While in New Orleans, the Republican Convention gets a going over and then there's sport to consider as well, be it darts, cards or tennis. Name-dropping with the best of them - and in a far less assuming manner - Amis entertains his readers at least as much as he himself has been entertained by people in the world around him. It may be a little dated, but it's still an enjoyable flit back in time.

due June

Cara

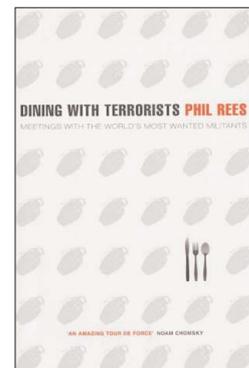


Dining with Terrorists

Phil REES 395pp Tp \$30.00

Rees takes us into the world of the political activist and guerrilla fighter and sits us down with them at their table. When George W Bush proclaimed "you're either with us or you're against us" in the war on terror, he eradicated the right of anyone to question his logic or challenge his new list of 'terrorist' organisations. Lazily bandied around, the emotive, political and inflammatory word 'terrorism' has accompanied everything from ecology and narcotics to nuclear weapons.

But we would do well to recall George Orwell and 'new speak', and treat the headlines, the spin and the political justifications with the objectivity they deserve. By infiltrating the most inaccessible political resistance groups over the past 20 years, Rees has sought to understand what motivates the 'terrorist' or 'freedom fighter' and to balance this against the context of current world events and the sweeping power of US military might. Through the sharing of refreshments and discussion with 'terrorists' such as Colombian coca farmers, Basque separatists and Kashmiri independence fighters, Rees was able to pierce the headlines, the propaganda and the official government line to discover the human story behind the faceless, hooded caricature.



Dowling's Select Cases

1828 to 1844

T D CASTLE & Bruce KERCHER 1,035pp Hb \$100.00

James Dowling (1787-1844) was the third judge to be appointed to the Supreme Court of New South Wales and became its second Chief Justice in 1837. He was knighted in 1838 and died in office at the age of 56. From the many thousands of cases heard by him during 16 years on the bench, he was planning to publish 465 as Australia's first set of law reports. The notebooks containing these cases have been in the state archives since his death. This volume completes the task he began 161 years ago.

Griffith Review #8

People Like Us

Julianne SCHULTZ (editor) 236pp Pb \$16.95

The Griffith Reviews are a bit like an Australian *Granta*, a quarterly publication that offers thoughtful and thought-provoking essays on topical subjects. (# 7 on Fundamentalism was particularly well-received). This issue examines the nature of social divisions in Australia, with an impressive array of contributing writers: Robyn Williams on how politics and religion define "people like us", John Marsden (the children's author) on the Australian sense of humour and its way of excluding others, Martin Krygier on the rhetoric of reaction and its consequences, Margaret Simons looking at the sense of belonging in the suburbs, just to name a few. Well worth reading (and we keep most of the previous issues in stock). *Lindy*

Feasting with the Ancestors

Cooking Through the Ages with 110 Simple Recipes

Oswald RIVERA 277pp Pb \$24.95

Any book which starts with a recipe for Esau's Mess of Potage and ends with a 1950s Rich Chocolate Cake is well worth a look! The other 108 recipes range through history and geography, so you can find Roman sauce, medieval European vegetables, American Indian Pudding, Middle Eastern feasts, Mrs Beeton's Economical Beef a la Mode and 1920s Italian Fettucine Alfredo. An informative and delicious tour - and the recipes actually look like they could be managed in a modern kitchen!



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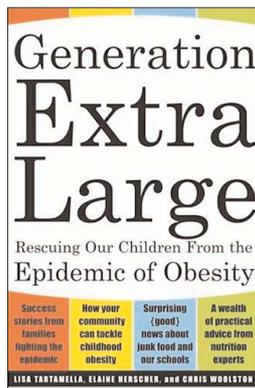
If you are after one of the fine titles from Cambridge University Press, please ask us first. We stock virtually all titles held by Cambridge in Australia, plus a few more!

Generation Extra Large

Rescuing Our Children from the Epidemic of Obesity

Lisa TARTAMELLA et al 255pp Hb \$39.95

This startling report, from the front-lines of an epidemic, reveals the truth about the skyrocketing rates of life-threatening childhood obesity and what can be done to fight it. Today's kids are on track to become the first generation in history to have a shorter life expectancy than their parents! This book by leading nutritionist Lisa Tartamella, together with award-winning journalists Elaine Hersher and Chris Woolston, is the first to explore the causes of this growing problem and to describe ways to solve it. The authors give voice to the crusaders who are set on helping overweight children, and provide checklists, interactive tests and nutritional guides for concerned readers. Just reading the section on the incidence of obesity in China since 1979 is shocking; however, more shocking is that the problem exists at all. *Shelley*



Bullying in Schools

How Successful Can Intervention Be?

Peter SMITH, Debra PEPLER & Ken RIGBY (eds) 334pp Tp \$59.95

This Cambridge title is the first comparative account of the major intervention projects against school bullying that have been carried out by educationalists and researchers since the 1980s, across Europe, North America and Australasia. It contains a 23-page section on the implementation of bullying policies across Australia after 1999, so all the information is as up-to-date as possible. This is an excellent resource for the interested observer and policy-maker. Bullying is not an Australian phenomenon, it is an international scourge. *Shelley*

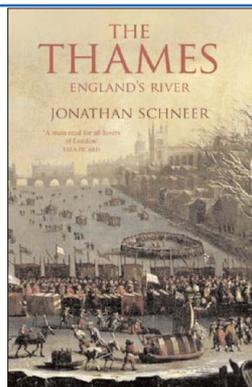
Travel

The Thames

England's River

Jonathan SCHNEER 352pp Hb \$49.95

"The Thames is liquid history" - John Burns MP (1858-1943). As the silver thread woven through Britain's centuries, the Thames is the subject of this significant biography. Following its course, geologically and chronologically, Schneer charts the growing importance of the river and some of the dramatic historic events it was central to. Since Tudor times, the Thames has been a key factor in understanding the British nation. At Runnymede, in a field by the river, England's barons forced King John to sign the Magna Carta in 1215. At Tilbury, on the banks of the Thames, in 1588, Elizabeth exhorted her troops to defy the Spanish Armada. In dockland, in east London 1940, local residents absorbed the full fury of Hitler's dreaded Luftwaffe. Hitler tried, and failed, to destroy the Port of London, symbol of British commercial power, reservoir of the material needed to fuel and fund the British war effort. This is a book about a river, but also about the evolution of a national identity.

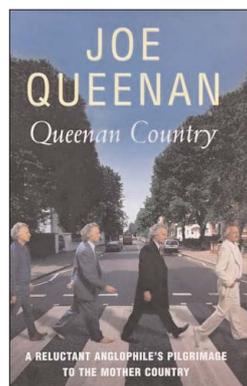


Queenan Country

A Reluctant Anglophile's Pilgrimage to the Mother Country

Joe QUEENAN 240pp Pb \$30.00

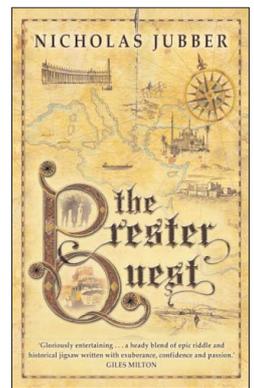
Queenan, self-styled connoisseur of trash, has a soft spot for Britain, but surprisingly not because it allows him to feel superior in his normal manner. His English wife has introduced him to many of the delights and foibles of her home country, but he decides after many family visits to go alone and have a look at some of those places he really should have seen by now. This is a light-hearted and affectionate tribute to the country and its denizens (well, maybe not to Pre-Raphaelites, Andrew Lloyd Webber or people on trains). Somewhere between Paul Theroux and Bill Bryson in tone, this is a pleasant way to while away a few hours. *Lindy*



The Prester Quest

Nicholas JUBBER 352pp Hb \$45.00

In October 2000, Jubber came across a copy of Pope Alexander III's letter to the legendary Priest-King of the Indies, Prester John, sent in 1177. The pope's emissary was a physician called Master Philip who had set out from Rome... never to be seen or heard of again. Jubber decided to complete Master Philip's mission, albeit 824 years later, by finding Prester John and delivering the letter. This account of his remarkable journey by foot, ferry, bus, tractor, train and horse-drawn cart, around the Eastern Mediterranean, through the Middle East and North Africa, before homing in on Ethiopia (and the closely-guarded tomb of a medieval king who legend links with the mythical figure of Prester John) is ever-so-slightly eccentric and very amusing. Crammed full of curious charts, historical footnotes and fascinating trivia (both medieval and modern) - the different names for the Middle Eastern water pipe and the unusual nature of Ethiopian time-keeping - it is a winning combination of a young man's enthusiasm and sense of adventure, an historian's awareness of time and place, and a true traveller's eye for his surroundings and the people he meets on the way. Delicious! *due June*

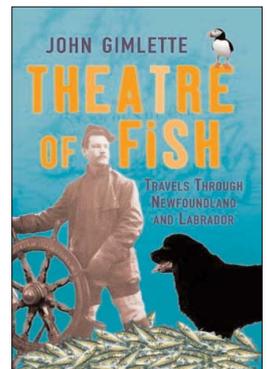


Theatre of Fish

Travels Through Newfoundland and Labrador

John GIMLETTE 365pp Tp \$34.95

Gimlette's journey across this awesome and often brutal western extreme of the Americas broadly mirrors that of Dr Eliot Curwen, his great-grandfather, who spent a summer there as a doctor in 1893, and who was witness to some of the most beautiful ice and cruellest poverty in the British Empire. Using Curwen's extraordinarily frank journal, he revisits the places the doctor encountered and along the way explores his own links with this brutal land. At the heart of the book, however, are the present-day inhabitants of these shores. Descended from last-hope Irishmen, outlaws, navy deserters and fishermen from Jersey and Dorset, these 'outporters' are a warm, salty, witty and exuberant breed. They often speak with the accent and idioms of the original colonists, sometimes Shakespearean, sometimes just plain impenetrable. Theirs is a bizarre story of houses (or 'saltboxes') that can be dragged across land or floated over the sea; of eating habits inherited from 17th century sailors (salt beef, rum pease-pudding and molasses); of Labradorians sealed in ice from October to June; of fishing villages that produced a diva to sing with Verdi and of their own illicit, impromptu dramatics, the Mummings.

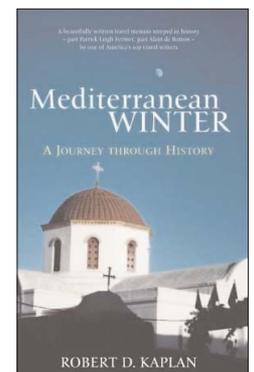


Mediterranean Winter

A Journey Through History

Robert KAPLAN 276pp Hb \$44.95

This is a lyrical account of Kaplan's journey in the off-season around the Mediterranean, retracing the footsteps of his youth. A beautifully written meditation on the golden age of travel and the pleasures of history, it takes us from Tunisia, once proud Carthage, rival to Rome, through Sicily, up the Dalmatian coast and into Greece. Alive with the spirits of the past, from Hadrian and Homer to Hannibal and Ibn Khaldun, Kaplan closes with a fascinating pilgrimage to visit Patrick Leigh Fermor in his hideaway on the Aegean.



Sad news to hear that Canadian Bob Hunter, co-founder of Greenpeace, has died at only 63. It made me look at our sections for Environmental Science and Earth Science. I remember the little section we had in our shop at 115 Pitt Street (more than 30 years ago), our first specifically headed Environment collection. We still carry some of those same titles, such as Rachel Carson's **Silent Spring** (\$22.95 Pb) and a special anniversary edition of **The Sea Around Us** (\$35 Pb).

We now have **Whose Water is it? The Unquenchable Thirst of a Water-Hungry World** (\$24.95 Pb 232pp) from National Geographic, Washington, edited by Bernadette McDonald et al. Also **The Dioxin War: Truth and Lies About a Perfect Poison** (dioxin is in Agent Orange) (\$39.95 Pb 201pp incl index) or **Boiling Point: How Politicians, Big Oil and Coal, Journalists and Activists have Fuelled the Climate Crisis and What We Can Do to Avert Disaster** by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Ross Gelbspan (\$39.95 Hb 354pp incl index). Also **In Search of Sustainability** edited by Jenny Goldie et al from CSIRO Publishing (\$29.95 Pb 176pp incl index). My interest is in Urban Design and Transport, so I was pleased to see an essay on this from Professor Peter Newman. Just arrived is **2005 State of the World: Global Security from the WorldWatch Institute** (\$49.95 Pb 236pp incl index). Notice how so much attention is now focused on Security!

I mean to go on one of the Sydney Architecture Walks to view both Modern and Historic buildings, which meet at the Museum of Sydney (information at www.sydneyarchitecture.org). Meanwhile, I see we still have copies of a special book by Andrew Metcalf with photos by Martin van der Wal about **Aurora Place** (the buildings designed by Renzo Piano at the top of Phillip Street) (\$99 Hb 150pp incl index).

We have completed our minor reshuffle of sections and now have a Marked Down section on the pillar near the stairs, while Historiography has gained more space and shares a stand with Archaeology and Prehistory. I do like the way the word Historiography rolls off the tongue! Titles in that expanded section include **Historians in Trouble: Plagiarism, Fraud and Politics in the Ivory Tower** by Jon Wiener (\$39.95 Hb 260pp incl index), which confrontationists will like, and **Global History Reader** edited by Bruce Mazlish & Akira Iriye, which examines the new field of Global History, and includes Anthropology and Development Studies (\$59 Tp 302pp incl index). **Authority and Tradition in Ancient Historiography** by John Marincola (\$99 Pb 301pp incl index) looks at the original historians and their views, so maybe it should be in Classical Studies? And locally we have a collection of essays edited by Stuart Macintyre and published by Melbourne University Press, **The Historian's Conscience: Australian Historians on the Ethics of History** (\$29.95 Pb 166pp incl index).

It has taken me a while to find the courage to read **Joe Cinque's Consolation: A True Story of Death, Grief and the Law** by Helen Garner (\$30 Tp 328pp). You have probably read newspaper reports of this bizarre story about the clever young law student who planned to murder her devoted boyfriend, and even arranged a dinner party where it would take place. She was found

guilty, yet only given a short sentence on the grounds of mental illness. A terrible, terrible story, but Helen Garner's search to find some meaning and some consolation for Joe's parents is heartbreaking. Her simple, muscular prose carries you with her in an unflinching search for morality. Great writing. It is more than just an account of the trials, and belongs in the same category of Creative Non-Fiction that Truman Capote started with his book, **In Cold Blood** (\$17.95 Pb), which is now found in Fiction.

In Crime Non-Fiction, there are other stories such as **The Pyjama Girl Mystery: A True Story of Murder, Obsession and Lies** by Richard Evans (\$30 Pb 250pp) or Kevin Perkins' **Bristow: The Last of the Hard Men** (\$24.95 Pb 394pp). Professionals such as solicitors, law enforcement officers, loss adjusters or security people will be interested in **The Investigator's Guide** by Ashley Keith (\$59.95 Lp), who examines the idiosyncrasies of offenders, or even **Forensics for Dummies** by Douglas Lyle (\$39.95 Lp 356pp incl index).

In Crime Non-Fiction, I also found a little book called **Talking Mysteries: A Conversation with Tony Hillerman** (\$29.95 Pb), in which Hillerman discusses his unique approach to crime writing. This also includes a Jim Chee mini-mystery (long unavailable) and 12 sketches of Hillerman characters by Navajo artist Ernest Franklin. A nice little treasure for Hillerman fans.

It is 60 years since the end of World War II, so there have been many documentaries on TV. If you want to follow up some of these, have a look in 20th Century History. Titles include **Essential Histories Series: The Second World War: A World in Flames** published by Osprey with maps and illustrations (\$59.95 Lp 480pp) and **The Oxford Companion to World War II** edited by Ian Dear et al, with A-Z entries from specialist contributors, maps and statistics, but no pictures (\$79.95 Lp 1,039pp). **Second World War** by renowned military historian John Keegan covers both Europe and the Pacific War (\$50 Pb 513pp incl index).

There are many more titles on specific battles and areas of interest, not least being Antony Beevor's **Stalingrad** (\$35 Tp 493pp) and **Berlin: The Downfall 1945** (\$35 Tp 450pp), in Russian History (now enlarged) and German History respectively.

To celebrate their Seventieth Birthday in July, Penguin are issuing a series of small books called Penguin 70s (rather like the 60s that came out 10 years ago). One of these is called **Christmas at Stalingrad** by Antony Beevor, so I shall be interested to see it. Only \$3.95 each (limited supplies).

Winter is coming, so some good TV shows are arriving. Did you see the documentary on George Eliot? There is a prize-winning biography by Kathryn Hughes, **George Eliot: The Last Victorian** (\$31.95 Pb). And have you been watching the marvellous series of *North and South* taken from Mrs Gaskell's novel? I expect many of you will soon be browsing through our famous Classics section.

A good customer told me recently that he had been giving lectures on Don DeLillo, author of **White Noise** (\$22 Pb). Although he found this novel interesting, he was keen to get back to the pleasures of 19th century literature. So I want to remind you of some of the titles from George

Eliot and Elizabeth Gaskell, including a couple of unusual ones. We often have several editions from different publishers, so I have only given one price. Do come and browse.

Mrs Gaskell's novels include **North and South** (\$10.95), **Wives and Daughters** (\$14.95), Cranford (\$12.95), **Mary Barton** (\$10.95), **Ruth** (\$14.95), **Sylvia's Lovers** (\$18.95) and one I did not know, **Lois the Witch** (\$21.95 Pb), set in Salem, Massachusetts.

George Eliot's novels are **Daniel Deronda** (\$16.95), **Middlemarch** (\$10.95), **Mill on the Floss** (\$9.95 or \$24.95 cassette, read by Emily Watson), **Romola** (\$16.95), **Silas Marner** (\$8.95), **Adam Bede** (\$10.95), **Felix Holt, Radical** (\$19.95), **Scenes of Clerical Life** (\$18.95) and **The Lifted Veil and Brother Jacob** (\$8.95). You can see why Eliot was (eventually) one of the richest women in England! In Literary Criticism, you will also find her **Selected Critical Writings** (\$16.95 Pb).

While checking out these books on our website (www.abbey.com.au), I happened to notice a Russian edition of **White Noise** available upstairs in Language Book Centre. This is called **Beliy Shum** (\$42.90 Pb). Amazing what you find as you browse through.

I should also remind you to subscribe to email updates of new titles in Science, History or Philosophy. We have so many new titles each month - I don't know of any other shop with so much space devoted to various new titles - that we can't get them all in *Abbey's Advocate*, so do subscribe. You can do it on the website and it's free.

Our marvellous Annual Sale runs from Saturday 18 June to Sunday 26 June and all the independent bookshops around here - known as the Sydney Book Quarter - will be having sales at the same time. The Sydney Book Quarter comprises our three shops - Abbey's, Language Book Centre and Galaxy Bookshop - as well as Napoleon's Military Bookshop next door, Adyar Bookshop in Clarence Street for metaphysical and alternative books, and Ashwood's Music and Books (second hand) across the lane. So make a note to come to York Street and see what you can glean. If you have an Abbey's Card, you will also be adding last-minute purchases towards your Reward Dollars for the six months to 30 June. During the sale period, you also get Discount Dollars equal to 10% of your purchases, so you receive the equivalent of 10% off both new books and already marked down books.

Last month I went to the presentation at the State Library of the *Nita B Kibble and Nita May Dobbie Awards* for Women Writers. The \$20,000 cheque for the *Kibble Award for Life Writing* by an Australian Woman was happily given to Gay Bilson for her hard-to-classify **Plenty** (\$49.95 Hb), a beautiful book which is not full of recipes but full of thought. *The Dobbie Award for a First Novel* went to Paulette Gittins for her **Secret World of Annette Robinson** (\$22.95 Pb). *The Kibble and Dobbie Awards* make a good story in themselves. Nita B was the first female librarian at the State Library (they thought her signature was male). She brought up her niece, Nita May, whose mother had died in childbirth, and it was Nita May who set up the awards in memory of her aunt. Let's have more personal philanthropy!

Keep well,

Eve

Abbey's Bestsellers - May 2005

Fiction

- 1 **Flashman on the March**
by George MacDonald Fraser (Tp \$29.95)
- 2 **Never Let Me Go** by Kazuo Ishiguro (Tp \$29.95)
- 3 **The Da Vinci Code** by Dan Brown (Pb \$19.95)
- 4 **A Long Way Down** by Nick Hornby (Pb \$29.59)
- 5 **The Master** by Colm Toibin (Pb \$22)
- 6 **March** by Geraldine Brooks (Tp \$29.95)
- 7 **Rumours of War** by Allan Mallinson (Pb \$21.95)
- 8 **Forty Four Scotland Street**
by Alexander McCall Smith (Hb \$34.95)
- 9 **Sixty Lights** by Gail Jones (Tp \$29.95)
- 10 **Kafka on the Shore** by Haruki Murakami (Tp \$34.95)

Non-Fiction

- 1 **Kmart's Ten Deadly Sins: How Rogue Managers Ruined an American Icon** by Marcia Layton Turner (Hb \$38.95)
- 2 **French Women Don't Get Fat** by Mireille Giuliano (Hb \$29.95)
- 3 **Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Survive**
by Jared Diamond (Pb \$32.95)
- 4 **The Fabric of the Cosmos** by Brian Greene (Pb \$26.95)
- 5 **Critical Mass: How One Thing Leads to Another**
by Philip Ball (Tp \$32.95)
- 6 **The Moral of the Story: An Anthology of Ethics Through Literature**
edited by Peter & Renata Singer (Tp \$49.95)
- 7 **Attila: A Barbarian King and the Fall of Rome** by John Man (Tp \$39.95)
- 8 **Organisations Behaving Badly: A Greek Tragedy of Group Pathology**
by Leon Gettler (Tp \$29.95)
- 9 **The Chosen Ones: The Politics of Salvation in the Anglican Church**
by Chris McGillion (Pb \$29.95)
- 10 **Medieval Travellers: The Rich and the Restless** by Margaret Wade Labarge (Pb \$24.95)

A Great Dictionary Deal!

Buy **The Oxford Dictionary of English** (Hb \$99.95), featuring 355,000 words, phrases and definitions, as well as a brand-new set of appendices, and receive a free copy of **Simon Winchester's The Meaning of Everything** (Hb \$34.95), which tells the remarkable story of the first edition of the OED in 1928 and James Murray, its brilliant but erratic founder.



Now in Paperback

Dancing with Strangers by Inga Clendinnen \$25.00

Clendinnen tells the story of what happened between the first British settlers of Australia and the people they found living there. Her analysis of early cultural interactions touches broader themes of recent historical debates: the perception of the 'Other', the meanings of culture and the nature of colonialism and imperialism.

Case Histories by Kate Atkinson \$23.95

To Jackson Brodie, former police inspector turned private investigator, the world consists of one accounting sheet - Lost on the left, Found on the right - and the two never seem to balance. Atkinson's bravura storytelling conveys the mysteries of life, its inanities and its hilarities.

My Life by Bill Clinton \$35.00

Here is the life of a great national and international figure, revealed with all his talents and contradictions. Filled with fascinating moments and insights, it is told openly and directly, in President Clinton's recognisable voice. *due June*

Origins of the Final Solution by Chris Browning \$32.95

This highly recommended history is the most comprehensive analysis to date of the descent of the Nazi persecution of the Jews into mass murder. It is recommended by no less an historian than Ian Kershaw as a profound, magisterial explanation as to how the darkest chapter in human history could come about.

The Fourth Crusade and the Sack of Constantinople by Jonathan Phillips \$28.00

History judged this as the crusade that went wrong. In this remarkable assessment of the Fourth Crusade, Phillips follows the fortunes of the leading players and explores the conflicting motives that drove the expedition to commit the most infamous massacre of the crusading movement.

In Tasmania by Nicholas Shakespeare \$32.95

In Tasmania on holiday, novelist and Chatwin biographer Nicholas Shakespeare discovered a house on a nine-mile beach and decided this was where he wanted to live. He didn't know then that his ancestor was the corrupt and colourful Anthony Fenn Kemp, now known as the Father of Tasmania, or that he would find relatives living on the island.

Stalin and His Hangmen:

An Authoritative Portrait of a Tyrant and Those Who Served Him by Donald Rayfield \$26.95.

Stalin, like Hitler and other tyrants, won and held power because he had collaborators - hangmen. Drawing on newly released archival material, Rayfield gives us a fuller and more colourful picture of Stalin's inner circle than ever before. Stalin was not the sole author of Stalinism.

Salamis: The Greatest Naval Battle of the Ancient World, 480 BC by Barry Strauss \$29.95

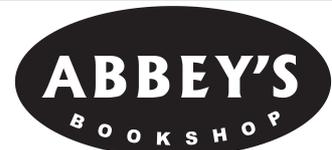
The gripping story of one month in 480 BC when the ancient world trembled at the outcome of the largest land/sea invasion ever attempted. And nothing would ever be the same again.

Editor: Ann Leahy

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

Binding Key

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



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* during every 6 month period ended 30 June & 31 Dec

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