

A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

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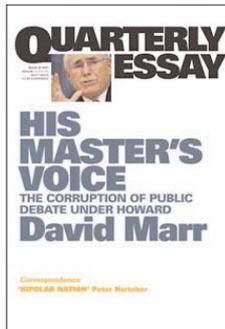
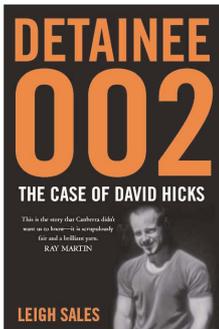
books@abbey.com.au

## Detainee 002

### The Case of David Hicks

Leigh SALES 286pp Tp \$32.95

It is a long way from the events of September 11, 2001 to David Hicks' cell in Guantanamo Bay in 2007. Leigh Sales tells the story of how an awkward young man from Adelaide ended up a pawn in the War on Terror, detained indefinitely in the notorious Cuban prison. She reveals unprecedented detail about why Hicks was one of the first prisoners chosen for trial, the conditions of his imprisonment, especially in solitary confinement, and how an inexperienced marine, Major Michael Mori, took on the President of the United States on the Australian's behalf. Sales explains the intricacies of Hicks case, the behind-the-scenes workings of the military commissions set up at Guantanamo Bay, and asks whether the means have justified the ends in the War on Terror. For Sales, Hicks' case is emblematic of some of the greatest challenges facing the world today: the rise of Islamic extremism, terrorism and the increasing power of non-state actors and the accountability of governments towards their citizens. In a war with no rules, ever-changing parameters and no end in sight, who determines the limits?



## Quarterly Essay 26

### His Master's Voice

#### The Corruption of Public Debate Under Howard

David MARR 120pp Pb \$14.95

John Howard has the loudest voice in Australia. He has cowed his critics, muffled the press, intimidated the ABC, gagged scientists, silenced NGOs, censored the arts, prosecuted leakers, criminalised protest and shut down parliamentary scrutiny. Though touted as a contest of values, this has been a party political assault on Australia's liberal culture. In the name of 'balance', Howard's agenda has muscled its way into the intellectual life of the country. But this has happened because we let it happen. Once again, Howard has shown his superb grasp of Australia as it really is. Marr investigates both a decade of suppression and the strange willingness of Australians to watch, with such little angst, while their liberties disappear.

*Due Jun*

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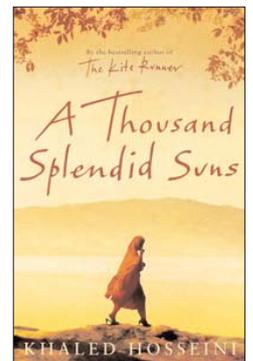
Sat 16 - Sun 24 June

## A Thousand Splendid Suns

Khaled HOSSEINI

364pp Tp \$32.95

This is the story of an unusual and lifelong friendship between two Afghan women, spanning the idyllic mid-1950s to post-September 11 Kabul. Bound by tragedy and fate, by political circumstance and custom, the two women live through the Soviet war, the harrowing days of the Afghan civil war and the rule of the Taliban. Yet even as their world unravels around them and innocence is shattered, they find that there, amidst the ruins, is the possibility for hope, meaning and unexpected grace. The new novel from the author of *The Kite Runner* (\$22.95), one of our most popular backlist fiction titles. *Due Jun*

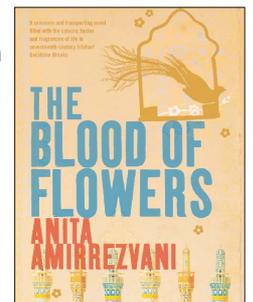


## The Blood of Flowers

Anita AMIRREZVANI

384pp Tp \$32.95

Set in 17th century Iran in a remote village where the narrator (whose name, in the Iranian storytelling tradition, we are never to know) lives with her mother and rug-maker father. On the sudden death of her father, our heroine and her mother fall upon hard times and are forced to travel to the bustling, beautiful, exotic city of Isfahan, where relatives take them in. Everything is new: the grudging charity of her aunt, the encouragement of her uncle, one of the finest carpet-makers in the world - who begins to teach her his craft, the treacherous friendship of the daughter of rich neighbours. And there's an adventure ahead which will introduce her to the sensual side of life, as well as to the cruelty of betrayal and rejection, before she finds her way to contentment and, possibly, to happiness, in a world full of contrasts and dangers.



Queen's Birthday  
Monday 11 June  
Open 10am - 5pm

Closed for Stocktake

Tuesday 5 June  
Abbey's and Language  
Book Centre will close at  
3pm for stocktake

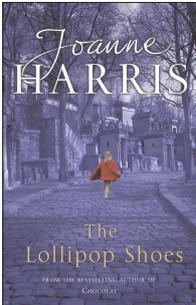
**The Keep**

Jennifer EGAN 256pp Tp \$32.95  
After 20 years apart, two cousins reunite in Eastern Europe to renovate a medieval castle. Irrevocably bound to one another through the shared experience of their youth, a childhood prank with devastating consequences has changed both their lives forever. In an environment of desolation, isolation and paranoia, they fall under the gothic spell of the castle and its violent history. The crimes of the past and present are about to collide, with unthinkable results... *Due Jun*



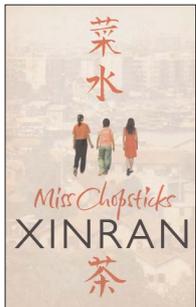
**The Lollipop Shoes**

Joanne HARRIS 352pp Tp \$32.95  
Seeking refuge and anonymity in the cobbled streets of Montmartre, Vianne and her daughters, Rosette and Annie, live peacefully, if not happily, above their little chocolate shop. Nothing unusual marks them out; no red sachets hang by the door. The wind has stopped, at least for a while. Then into their lives blows Zoïe de l'Alba, the lady with the lollipop shoes, and everything begins to change... But this new friendship is not what it seems. Ruthless, devious and seductive, Zoïe has plans of her own - plans that will shake their world to pieces. And with everything she loves at stake, Vianne must face a difficult choice; to flee, as she has done so many times before, or to confront her most dangerous enemy - herself.



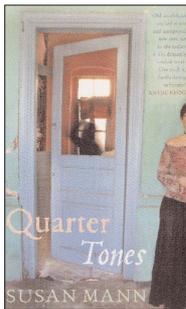
**Miss Chopsticks**

XINRAN 240pp Tp \$32.95  
The Li sisters don't have much education, but one thing has been drummed into them: their mother is a failure because she hasn't managed to produce a son, and they themselves only merit a number as a name. Women, their father tells them, are like chopsticks: utilitarian and easily broken. Men, on the other hand, are the strong rafters that hold up the roof of a house. Yet when circumstances lead the sisters to seek work in distant Nanjing, the shocking new urban environment opens their eyes. While Three contributes to the success of a small restaurant, Five and Six learn new talents at a health spa and a bookshop/tearoom. And when the money they earn starts arriving back at the village, their father is forced to recognise that daughters are not so dispensable after all.



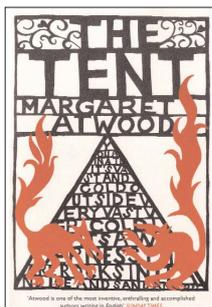
**Quarter Tones**

Susan MANN Tp \$32.95  
The most important things are hardest to find words for, her father once said. That's why people make music. When Ana returns to the ramshackle cottage of her youth in the seaside village of Noordhoek, near Cape Town, she does so with the intention of sorting out her father's affairs. It soon becomes clear that more is at stake. After a decade in London, where she has failed to find work as a musician, her return to South Africa puts further distance into an already-strained marriage, not only because she is out of reach, but because Michael, her husband, has lost faith in the country. Against a tangle of childhood memories, scarred histories and renewed hope, Ana finally starts to confront the death of Sam, her Irish luthier father, and with it, questions of guilt and belonging.



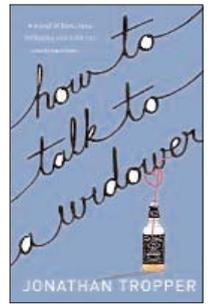
**The Tent**

Margaret ATWOOD 176pp Pb \$21.95  
One of the world's most celebrated authors, Atwood has written a collection of smart and entertaining fictional essays in the genre of **Good Bones** (Pb \$22.95). Chilling and witty, prescient and personal, delectable and tart, these highly imaginative tales tackle a broad range of subjects, reflecting the times we live in with deadly accuracy and knife-edge precision. Punctuated with wonderful illustrations by the author, they are vintage Atwood.



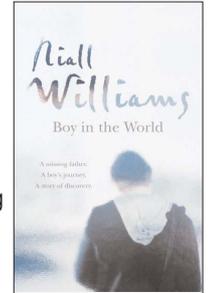
**How to Talk to a Widower**

Jonathan TROPPER 352pp Tp \$32.95  
When Doug Parker married Hailey - beautiful, smart and 10 years older - he left his carefree Manhattan life behind to live with her and her teenaged son Russ in a quiet Westchester community. Three years later, Hailey has been dead for a year, and Doug, a widower at 29, just wants to drown himself in self-pity and Jack Daniels. But his family has other ideas. Soon, Doug finds himself reconnecting with his own eccentric nuclear family and reluctantly dipping his toes into the shark-infested waters of the second-time-around dating scene. It isn't long before his new life is spinning hopelessly out of control, cutting a harrowing and hilarious swath of sexual missteps and escalating violence across the suburban landscape. *Due Jun*



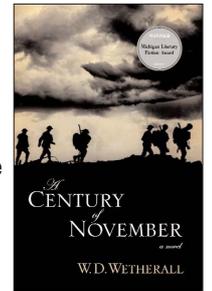
**Boy in the World**

Niall WILLIAMS 352pp Tp \$33.00  
In this beautiful and moving novel about a young boy's journey from childhood to adulthood, Williams draws us into life in a small village in Ireland where a boy is growing up and making his first tentative steps to becoming a man. But when the Master, his caring old guardian, gives him a letter from his long-dead mother, his world comes crashing down. Learning for the first time that his father is not dead, he sets out to find him, piecing together the information he can glean from his mother's letter: his father is a journalist for the BBC, has lived in London and is a Muslim. Arriving in London, disorientated and alone, he finds himself at the centre of a terrorist attack as the BBC is bombed and hundreds are killed and injured. Taken under the caring wing of Sister Bridget - a nun also caught up in the chaos - he refuses to allow this catastrophe to move him from his goal.



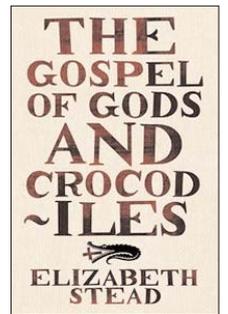
**A Century of November**

W D WETHERELL 176pp Pb \$24.95  
This is the tale of Charles Marden, an apple grower and judge who sets off from his home on Vancouver Island on an impulsive journey to Belgium where his son, an Allied soldier in WWI, has just died in battle at the very end of the war. His single-minded mission is to find the exact spot where his son was killed. Upon arriving in England, Marden learns that his son left behind a pregnant girlfriend, so his search widens to include finding the love his son left behind.



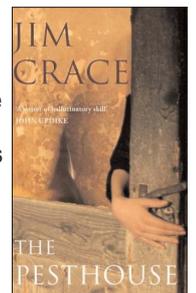
**The Gospel of Gods and Crocodiles**

Elizabeth STEAD 312pp Tp \$32.95  
Missionary Amen Morley arrives on a tropical island to find a community largely untouched by the modern world. A magnet for eccentric characters, the island paradise soon becomes a hotspot of conflicting cultures. The preachers are competing to save souls, while others have come to make a new beginning. There's Herbert Glass, the English doctor who cures clocks, Missy Wing, the Chinese trader, and Sam Maitland, who the locals dub the 'crocodile man'. The islanders are bemused by the behaviour of these strange intruders. But instead of being the ones doing the converting, the foreigners end up most transformed by this extraordinary place.



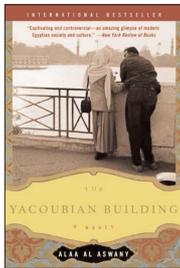
**The Pesthouse**

Jim CRACE 320pp Tp \$32.95  
This used to be America, this river crossing in the 10-month stretch of land, this sea-to-sea. It used to be the safest place on earth. America as we know it has fragmented. Its machines have stopped, its communities have splintered, its history is virtually forgotten and the great migration has started: eastwards, through the mountains and down the perilous Dreaming Highway, to ships rumoured to sail to a land of greater promise. Into this landscape stumbles Franklin, who has left his home only to find new ties in a pesthouse perched above a valley. Margaret, suffering the early stages of plague, has been carried up from Ferrytown to recuperate or die alone. When her village is destroyed, she and Franklin set out together, compelled to leave everything they know behind them. This is the story of an America adapting to a 'medieval future' without technology, without science, without social cohesion; and it is the story of how two people find strength in one another against all the odds.



**The Yacoubian Building**

Alaa Al ASWANY 272pp Pb \$29.00  
Published in Egypt 2002, this was the bestselling novel in Arabic for two years running and was voted *Best Novel for 2003* by listeners to Egypt's Middle East Broadcasting Service. Ostensibly set in 1990 at about the time of the first Gulf War, this is a scathing portrayal of modern Egyptian society since the coup d'état of 1952. The locale of the novel is downtown Cairo, with the Yacoubian apartment building (which actually exists) serving as both a metaphor for contemporary Egypt and a unifying location in which most of the primary characters either live or work. The novel has now been made into a star-studded, \$3 million movie (the biggest ever budget for an Egyptian film).



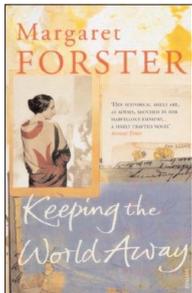
**The Sun Over Breda**

Captain Alatrisme #3  
Arturo PEREZ-REVERTE 320pp Pb \$32.95  
Flanders, 1625. After his tussles with the Inquisition and the intrigue of the Spanish court, Captain Alatrisme has returned to the mud and desperation of the long war in Flanders. This is Inigo's first experience of war and the realities of hand-to-hand combat. It is on the battlefield that he will finally have the chance to become a man and prove his worth. The troops are weary and ill-nourished and the winter has been long. As Spain sinks ever further into depravity and corruption, the soldiers have not been paid and must survive by whatever means they can. Mutiny is in the air, on the lips of every Spaniard, but they are strong and their famous iron discipline has brought them many victories against the Calvinist forces of the heretics. Reputation, honour and the glory of Spain will keep them in the fight, but for how long?



**Keeping the World Away**

Margaret FORSTER 352pp Pb \$24.95  
This engrossing, beautifully crafted novel follows the fictional adventures, over 100 years, of an early 20th-century painting and the women whose lives it touches. It opens with bold, passionate Gwen, struggling to be an artist, leaving for Paris where she becomes Rodin's lover and paints a small, intimate picture of a quiet corner of her attic room. Then there's Charlotte, a dreamy intellectual Edwardian girl, and Stella, Lucasta, Ailsa and finally young Gillian, who share an unspoken desire to have for themselves a tranquil golden place like that in the painting. Quintessential Forster, this is a novel about women's lives, about what it means and what it costs to be both a woman and an artist, and an unusual, compelling look at a beautiful painting and its imagined afterlife.



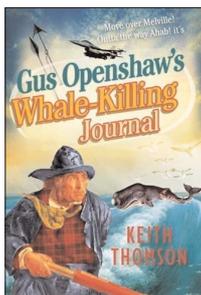
**After Dark**

Haruki MURAKAMI Pb \$32.95  
The midnight hour approaches in an almost empty all-night diner. Mari sips her coffee and glances up from a book as a young man, a musician, intrudes on her solitude. Both have missed the last train home. The musician has plans to rehearse with his jazz band all night, Mari is equally unconcerned and content to read, smoke and drink coffee until dawn. They realise they've been acquainted through Eri, Mari's beautiful sister. Meanwhile, Eri is at home and sleeps a deep, heavy sleep that is 'too perfect, too pure' to be normal; pulse and respiration at the lowest required level. She has been in this soporific state for two months and has become the classic myth - a sleeping beauty. But tonight, as the digital clock displays 00:00, a faint electrical crackle is perceptible, a hint of life flickers across the TV screen, even though the TV's plug has been pulled. Murakami, acclaimed master of the surreal, returns with a stunning new novel where the familiar can become unfamiliar after midnight, even to those who thrive in small hours. *Due Jun*



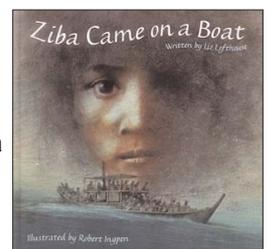
**Gus Openshaw's Whale-killing Journal**

Keith THOMSON 256pp Hb \$29.95  
Cat food cannery worker Gus Openshaw has one goal in life - to kill a whale. Not just any whale, but a big, blubbery whale that ate his wife and child, and his arm, during a vicious and unprovoked attack. With a rickety boat and a heavily restrictive whale-hunting licence, he sets out to exact revenge. Along the way, he keeps an online journal - a blog - to keep the world informed about his misfit crew, his clashes with pirates, his near-fatal incarceration and his infatuation with a certain island princess. Complete with scrimshaw illustrations, this outrageous documentation of one man's obsessive pursuit of a giant whale would make Captain Ahab proud.



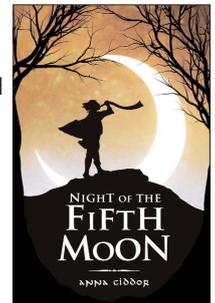
**Ziba Came on a Boat**

Liz LOFTHOUSE 24pp Hb \$29.95  
Beautifully illustrated by Robert Ingpen in his usual muted tones and expressive figures, this sensitively told story is about a little girl who has lost everything but her parents and her hope. It is a simple tale that reflects the reality of many small children and would make an excellent resource for teachers or parents who want to discuss refugees with youngsters aged 4-7.



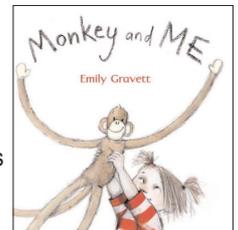
**Night of the Fifth Moon**

Anna CIDDOR 243pp Pb \$15.95  
If you have a young reader aged 9-12, this would be a suitable story, particularly if they have an interest in history, rather than fantasy. Ket wants to become a druid and has been fostered out to the local druid for 5 years, trying hard to impress him, with seemingly little luck. He and his fellow fosterlings are set a task and only one will be able to solve it and be eligible for the chance to learn the lore and powers of the druids. An undemanding read, but interesting and accessible.



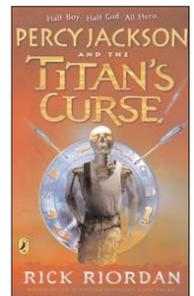
**Monkey and Me**

Emily GRAVETT 24pp Hb \$24.95  
A truly sweet little book for the very young. Simple, repetitive text that lends itself to reading aloud, the story celebrates a child's imagination. Gorgeously arranged illustrations of a little girl and her long-legged favourite stuffed toy, in quiet and harmonious colours on a white background, make this a delight to look at as well as read. You will turn to this book again and again!



**Percy Jackson and the Titan's Curse**

Rick RIORDAN 294pp Pb \$19.95  
Plenty of us here in the shop absolutely enjoy this series, so we were delighted when this one (#3) finally arrived! Percy can't help being the son of Poseidon and he can't help it if supernatural monsters keep trying to wipe him and his half-blood friends off the face of the earth. And it's worse when the Oracle says five of them have to fight the uprising of Monsters and not all will survive. Fast-paced, clever and inventive. And yes, there looks like more to come (hooray!)



**A Seed is Sleepy**

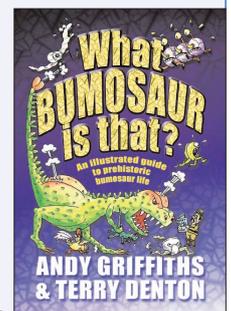
Dianna Hutts ASTON, Sylvia LONG (Illus) 40pp Hb \$27.95  
Beautifully illustrated in fine detail, this science book tells the young reader what a seed is, how it grows and gives an array of interesting facts. It is simply told, but includes scientific terms which are clearly explained. It would be a good book for any little naturalist as the text works as both a story and a factual narration, while the drawings are attractive to any age reader!

**What Bumosaur is that?**

**An Illustrated Guide to Prehistoric Bumosaur Life**

Andy GRIFFITHS & Terry DENTON 157pp Pb \$14.95

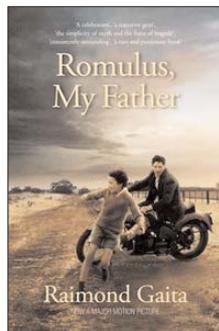
As the mother of a 7-year-old boy for whom there is no such thing as too many bum jokes, this was a source of squealing delight and the deepest belly-laughs from both of us. The first chapter Invertebutts starts "Life on Earth began in the seas with primitive bumteria during the Pre-crappian era." Written as a tongue-in-cheek identification manual, there are wondrous creatures such as the "Deep Sea Bum-Dangler" (I could hardly breathe from laughing at this one) and the "Tyrannosore-arse Rex", along with explanations of how they "bumvolved" and stink ratings. Denton's illustrations are inspired (and really show off his talents more than the *Just..* books). After reading it, we spent the day inventing and drawing our own bumasaurs. Simply wonderful!



Ann

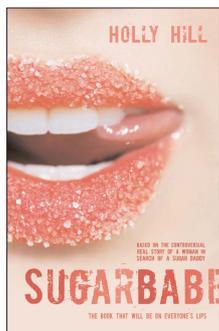
## Romulus, My Father

Raimond GAITA 202pp Pb \$24.95  
Romulus Gaita fled his home in his native Yugoslavia at the age of 13 and came to Australia with his young wife Christina and their infant son Raimond soon after WWII. Tragic events were to overtake the boy's life, but Raimond has an extraordinary story to tell about growing up with his father amid the stony paddocks and flowing grasses of country Australia. Written simply and movingly, Raimond relates how his father, a compassionate and honest man, taught him the meaning of living a decent life.



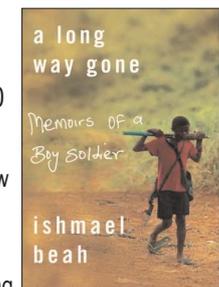
## Sugarbabe

Holly HILL Pb \$32.95  
"Attractive, professional, well-spoken, well-dressed, 35-year-old woman seeks sugar daddy. I live in Darlinghurst on a 17th floor unit with fantastic skyline views to the harbour. The unit also features very discreet and secure undercover guest parking. I am looking for exclusivity, so will (theoretically) be available to you 24/7. I am single and don't have any children. I am also a fabulous cook and can provide gourmet meals should you require them. I am a qualified psychologist, so I make an excellent listener, and I have a great love of conversation. I have also worked for many years in public relations so am a clever, charming companion in just about any situation. I love sex. I will require a generous weekly allowance in return for all of the above." Holly Hill (pseudonym) gave up her job at the behest of her wealthy boyfriend, then found herself dumped and penniless. After spending six weeks in bed pining for her lost love, she was encouraged by a friend to be 'open-minded' about her career choices, and ended up placing an online ad for a sugar daddy. This is her real-life account of the emails, meetings, employment of, and interactions with, the applicants for the role, and the five men she eventually chooses (not all at the same time!). It is by turns funny, enlightening, challenging and thought-provoking. *Due Jun*



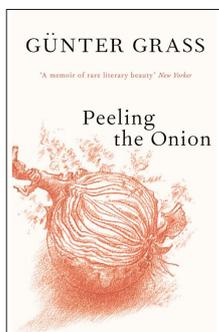
## A Long Way Gone Memoirs of a Boy Soldier

Ishmael BEAH 320pp Pb \$28.00  
My new friends have begun to suspect that I haven't told them the full story of my life. "Why did you leave Sierra Leone?" "Because there was a war." "You mean, you saw people running around with guns and shooting each other?" "Yes, all the time." "Cool." I smile a little. "You should tell us about it some time." This is how wars are fought now: by children, hopped-up on drugs and wielding AK-47s. In the more than 50 conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated there are some 300,000 child soldiers. Beah used to be one of them. Now 25, he tells a riveting story: at the age of 12 in Sierra Leone, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognisable by violence. By 13, he'd been picked up by the government army. At heart a gentle boy, he found he was capable of truly terrible acts. This is a rare and mesmerising account, told with real literary force and heartbreaking honesty. *Due Jun*



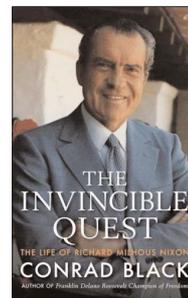
## Peeling the Onion

Gunter GRASS 432pp Hb \$59.95  
This is a searingly honest memoir that evokes Grass' modest upbringing in Danzig, his time as a boy soldier fighting the Russians and concludes in Paris with the writing of his masterpiece, **The Tin Drum** (Pb \$30.95, Hb \$36.95). His parents ran a corner shop, but his mother, whom he adored, encouraged him towards books and music. Like most of his peers, he joined the Hitler Youth. In 1944, aged 17, he was sent to the Eastern Front with the Waffen SS and found himself facing Russian tanks and machine guns. Recovering from shrapnel wounds in a military hospital, he had the good fortune to be taken prisoner by the Americans. In the aftermath of the war, following a stint as a miner, he survived by trading on the black market and resolved to become an artist, eventually enrolling at the Academy of Arts in Dusseldorf. While living as an artist in Berlin with his first wife Anna, a ballet dancer, he started to concentrate on writing poetry. It was after the couple moved to Paris that the first sentence of the novel he had been determined to write, and that would make his reputation, came to him: "Granted: I am an inmate of a mental hospital." This is the story of a remarkable life and is, without question, one of his finest works. *Due Jun*



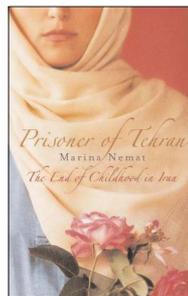
## The Invincible Quest

The Life of Richard Milhous Nixon  
Conrad BLACK 1,120pp Hb \$65.00  
Nixon rose spectacularly from modest beginnings to become Eisenhower's Vice-President in 1952 at the age of just 39. Defeated by John F Kennedy in the presidential election of 1960 and humiliated in Californian elections two years later, his political career looked to be finished. But he returned from the wilderness to snatch victory in the presidential election of 1968 and in 1972 was re-elected in one of the biggest landslides in presidential history. Then came Watergate, the shame of resignation and the long road to redemption. Drawing on recently opened tapes and documents, and on personal interviews with many of the major players in the Nixon administration, Black reveals a new side of Nixon: a man who didn't have the advantage of charisma, but was surprisingly self-assured and effective; a man dogged by political scandal, yet seemingly unstoppable. *Due Jun*



## Prisoner of Tehran

The End of Childhood in Iran  
Marina NEMAT 288pp Tp \$35.00  
Brought up as a Christian, Marina's idyllic childhood in Tehran was shattered when the Iranian Revolution of 1979 ushered in a new era of Islamic rule. After complaining to her teachers about her maths lessons being replaced by Koran study, she was arrested late one evening. She was taken to the notorious prison, Evin, where interrogation and torture were part of the daily routine. Aged 16, she was sentenced to death. Her prison guard snatched her from the firing squad bullets, but in return demanded she marry him and convert to Islam. She spent the next two years as both a prisoner of the state and of the man who held her life, and the lives of her family, in his hands. Lyrical, passionate and suffused throughout with grace and sensitivity, Marina's memoir is like no other. *Due Jun*



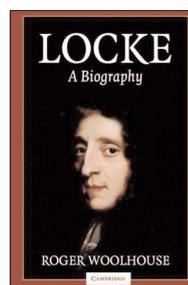
## Some Girls Do...

My Life as a Teenager  
Jacinta TYNAN (Ed) 342pp Tp \$29.95  
Sometimes as a teenager, you felt like real life was never going to happen, that adulthood was a long way off. As an adult, you can think those teen years didn't last very long! This collection from 51 women - all accomplished writers at the very least! - shows that those years contained some of the best and worst of times, but the over-riding message is they finish and you go on to other things - better maybe, harder sometimes, but always worthwhile. Some of the stories are moving, some are funny, some are brave, some are joyful, but they are almost all of them inspiring and generous. If you were a teenage girl, know one or wonder what it might've been like to be one, this is a book you should read. All royalties go to a mentoring programme SISTER2sister, so it's doubly worthwhile buying! *Lindy*



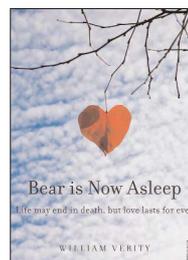
## Locke

A Biography  
Roger WOOLHOUSE 548pp Hb \$75.00  
Setting Locke's life within exciting historical and intellectual contexts, which included the English Civil War, religious persecution and the Glorious Revolution of 1688, Woolhouse interweaves an account of Locke's life with a summary and development of his ideas in the theory of knowledge, the philosophy of science, medicine, economics, the philosophy of religion and political philosophy. Woolhouse offers an explanation of Locke's ideas, while treating seriously his emotional relationship with Elinor Parry. *Due Jun*



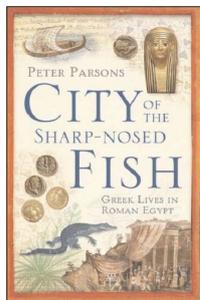
## Bear is Now Asleep

William VERITY 327pp Pb \$27.95  
"If only I hadn't gone to work that day. If only I had gone to the soccer gala day instead. If only Caroline and India had walked a foot to the left or to the right. If only..." One June day in 2003, William Verity's beloved 3-year-old daughter India was killed when she was hit by a falling portable goalpost. She was singing and dancing to her favourite Wiggles song, *Rock-a-Bye Your Bear*, minutes before the accident. Far more than a simple diary of events, this moving account of a family in crisis explores many of the bedrock issues of life that challenge and confront us all.



## City of the Sharp-Nosed Fish Greek Lives in Roman Egypt

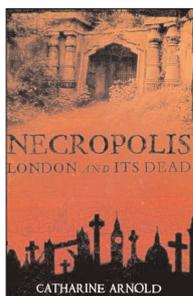
**Peter PARSONS** 320pp Hb \$59.95  
In 1897, two Oxford archaeologists began digging under a low, sand-covered mound 100 miles south of Cairo. Over the next 10 years, they uncovered 500,000 fragments of papyri. Shipped back to Oxford, the meticulous and scholarly work of deciphering these fragments began and continues today. As well as Christian writings from totally unknown gospels and Greek poems not seen by human eyes since the fall of Rome, there are tax returns, petitions, private letters, sales documents, leases, wills and shopping lists. What they found was the entire life of a flourishing market town - Oxyrhynchos (the city of the sharp-nosed fish) on a tributary of the Nile - encapsulated in its waste paper. The total lack of rain in this part of Egypt had preserved the papyrus beneath the sand, as nowhere else in the Roman Empire. We hear the voices of barbers, bee-keepers and boat-makers, dyers and donkey-drivers, plasterers and poets, weavers and wine-merchants, set against the great events of late antiquity: the rise and fall of the Roman Empire and the coming of Christianity, as well as the all-important annual flooding of the Nile.



## Necropolis

### London and its Dead

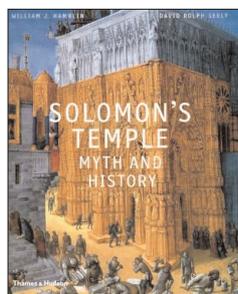
**Catherine ARNOLD** 320pp Pb \$24.95  
From Roman burial rites to the horrors of the plague, from the founding of the great Victorian cemeteries to the development of cremation and the current approach of metropolitan society towards death and bereavement (including more recent trends to displays of collective grief and the cult of mourning, such as that surrounding the death of Diana, Princess of Wales), Arnold offers a vivid historical narrative of this great city's attitude to going the way of all flesh. As layer upon layer of London soil reveals burials from prehistoric and medieval times, the city is revealed as one giant grave, filled with the remains of previous eras - pagan, Roman, medieval, Victorian. This fascinating blend of archaeology, architecture and anecdote includes such phenomena as the rise of the undertaking trade, the pageantry of state funerals, public executions and body-snatching. Ghoulishly entertaining and full of fascinating nuggets of information, this book leaves no headstone unturned in its exploration of our changing attitudes to the deceased. *Due Jun*



## Solomon's Temple

### Myth and History

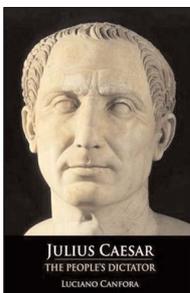
**W HAMBLIN & D SEELY** 224pp Hb \$59.95  
A source of fascination for years before it was the realm of popular fiction, Solomon's Temple is described in the Dead Sea Scrolls, was visited by Alexander the Great and has been used as a sacred site for the three major monotheistic religions. An authoritative, illustrated account of one of the most intriguing buildings in history, this guides the reader through the modern myths and popular cultural tales that surround it. *Lindy*



## Julius Caesar

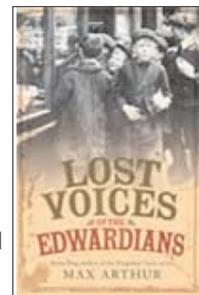
### The People's Dictator

**Luciano CANFORA** 320pp Hb \$69.95  
This book features a splendid profile of an extraordinary man and a radically new interpretation of one of the most controversial figures in history. Caesar played a leading role in the politics and culture of a world empire, dwarfing his contemporaries in ambition, achievement and appetite. For that, he has occupied a central place in the political imagination of Europe ever since. Yet he remains something of an enigma, struck down by his own lieutenants because he could be neither comprehended nor contained. In the surviving evidence, he emerges as incommensurate and nonpareil, just beyond the horizons of contemporary political thought and understanding. The result of Canfora's many years of research is a fascinating portrait of the Roman dictator, combining the evidence of political history and psychology. The product of a comprehensive study of the ancient sources, it paints a detailed portrait of a complex personality whose mission of 'Romanisation' lies at the root of modern Europe.



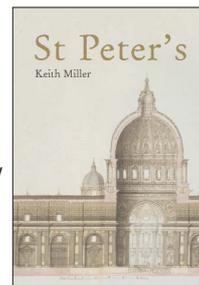
## Lost Voices of the Edwardians 1901-1910 in Their Own Words

**Max ARTHUR** 320pp Pb \$25.00  
The Edwardian era is often eclipsed in the popular imagination by the Victorian age that preceded it and the First World War that followed. In this wonderful work, Arthur redresses this imbalance, combining oral history and images from the rediscovered Edwardian Mitchell and Kenyon film footage to give voice to the forgotten figures who peopled the cities, factories and seashores of Britain. This extraordinary period was fuelled by a relentless sense of progress, witnessing the invention of many of the technologies now taken for granted. The extremes of this upstairs-downstairs world prompted a huge upsurge in political activity and the Edwardian age saw the rise of socialism and the suffragette movement. This exciting work draws together the experiences of people from all walks of life, capturing the first generation who were able to record their lives on film and imbuing them with an emotional immediacy. *Due Jun*



## St Peter's

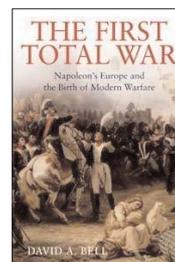
**Keith MILLER** 192pp Hb \$39.95  
The Vatican's St Peter's is crammed with works of art, its dome designed and painted by Michelangelo and a huge baroque basilica - the centre of the Catholic world. The story of St Peter's begins in the 1st century CE with the Hippodrome of Nero, one of two places where the Apostle Peter may have been crucified. 250 years later, Constantine the Great marked the supposed site of Peter's tomb in an ancient cemetery (still there in the Grottoes under the church) with a great basilica. That in turn was replaced over a 100-year period by a series of competitive renaissance and baroque Popes using the greatest artists of their day. Miller offers a rewarding account of a world-famous building - who built it, what it looks like and why, and how it affects tourists and pilgrims. *Due Jun*



## The First Total War

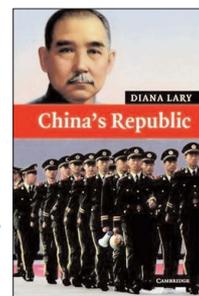
### Napoleon's Europe and the Birth of Modern Warfare

**David BELL** 320pp Hb \$59.95  
WWI was called "the war to end all wars" - the first time combatants were mobilised on a massive scale to ruthlessly destroy an enemy. But as Bell argues in this tour de force of interpretive history, the Great War was not, in fact, the first total war. For this, we need to travel back to the era of muskets and sailing ships, the age of Napoleon. According to Bell, it was then that warfare was transformed into the hideous spectacle that seems ever-present today. Indeed, nearly every modern aspect of war took root in that time: conscription, unconditional surrender, total disregard for the rules of combat, mobilisation of civilians, guerrilla warfare and the perverse notion of war fought for the sake of peace. The revolutionaries were leading "the last crusade for universal liberty". A war for such stakes could only be apocalyptic and bloody. With a historian's keen insight and a journalist's flair for detail, Bell brings this period to life, while keeping an eye on our own 'war of liberation' in Iraq. The parallels are astonishing, making this vivid narrative history as timely and important as it is unforgettable. *Due Jun*



## China's Republic

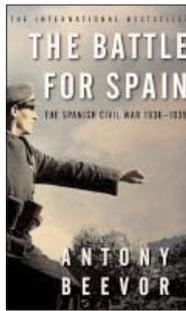
**Diana LARY** 242pp Pb \$44.95  
21st century China is emerging from decades of war and revolution into a new era. Yet the past still haunts the present. The ideals of the Chinese Republic, which was founded almost a century ago after 2,000 years of imperial rule, still resonate as modern China edges towards openness and democracy. Lary traces the history of the Republic from its beginnings in 1912, through the Nanjing decade, the warlord era, and the civil war with the Peoples' Liberation Army, which ended in defeat in 1949. Thereafter, in an unusual excursion from traditional histories of the period, she considers how the Republic survived in Taiwan, comparing its ongoing prosperity with the economic and social decline of the Communist mainland in the Mao years. *Due June*



## The Battle for Spain

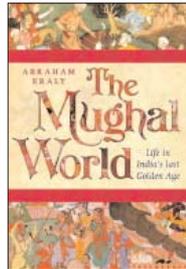
### The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939

Antony BEEVOR 648pp Pb \$29.95  
The civil war that tore Spain apart from 1936 to 1939, attracting liberals and socialists from across the world to support the cause against Franco, was one of the most hard-fought conflicts of the 20th century. It was a war of atrocities, political genocide and a military testing ground before WWII for the Russians, Italians and Germans, whose Condor Legion so notoriously destroyed Guernica. This was Beevor's first work of non-fiction, pre-dating his bestselling **Stalingrad** and **Berlin: The Downfall** (both Pb \$35). Now, more than 20 years later, he has substantially rewritten it, drawing on masses of newly-discovered material from the Spanish, Russian and German archives. He outlines the origins of the Civil War, the coup d'etat in July 1936 and the savage fighting of the next three years, which ended in catastrophic defeat for the Republicans in 1939. He unravels the complex political and regional forces that played such an important part in the origins and history of the war.



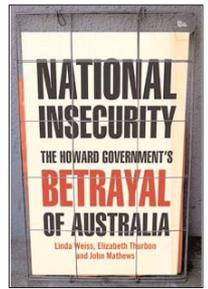
## The Mughal World

Abraham ERALY 424pp Hb \$59.95  
The Mughal emperors were larger-than-life figures who exercised absolute power. The three centuries of their rule, as laid out in Eraly's previous volume, **The Mughal Throne** (Pb \$29.95), mark one of the most crucial and fascinating periods of Indian history. Here he looks beyond the story of the empire's rise and fall - an exotic growth that was transplanted to India from Islamic Persia - to bring the world of the Mughal ruler and Hindu subject vividly into focus. Blending contemporary sources and detailed description, he introduces an India full of strangeness and contrast: of sacred harems and suttee rites, of staggering opulence, deviant indulgences and abject poverty. From bizarre religious cults to the Mughal fondness for formal gardening, from murderous female bandits to the sex lives of the nobles, almost every angle of life is examined, making this a comprehensive and absorbing introduction to India's last Golden Age.



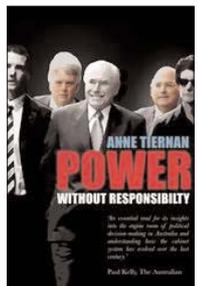
## National Insecurity The Howard Government's Betrayal of Australia

Linda WEISS, Elizabeth THURBON & John MATTHEWS 312pp Pb \$24.95  
It is the most arresting political story of the past decade: the reckless trampling of Australia's interests in one sector after another by a government that vigorously promotes itself as the guardian of national security. Pulled together for the first time in this meticulously researched book, the story is little-known and scarcely believable. Seeking to tie its own political fortunes to its great and powerful friend, the Howard Government has contracted to transfer the farm, and much more, to America Inc. Pursued with disturbing enthusiasm, the government's devious decisions have effectively undercut Australia's security, future prosperity and cultural values. This book probes the extraordinary details of how Australia's national interests have been systematically undermined by its own Prime Minister, offering a compelling explanation for this pattern of betrayal. *Due Jun*



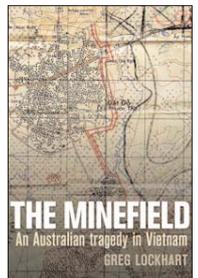
## Power Without Responsibility? Ministerial Staffers in Australian Governments from Whitlam to Howard

Anne TIERNAN 304pp Pb \$34.95  
A raft of recent political scandals in Australia has generated widespread media and public interest in the role and accountability of ministerial staffers and their impact on relations between ministers and their public service advisers. Such scandals include the notorious 'children overboard affair' and the more recent AWB imbroglio. Tiernan describes the contemporary working environment of political staffers, their formal and less formal roles, the challenges they face and the forces that have escalated the growth in their numbers and influence. *Due Jun*



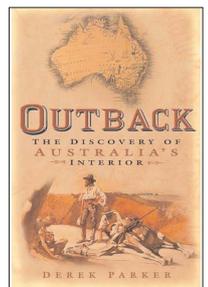
## The Minefield

**An Australian Tragedy in Vietnam**  
Greg LOCKHART 320pp Tp \$35.00  
Lockhart tells the story of one of the greatest disasters in Australian military history. In 1967, Brigadier Stuart Graham issued a calamitous order: the First Australian Task Force would construct a 11-km barrier fence minefield containing 20,292 powerful M16 landmines in southern Vietnam's Phuoc Tuy province. What he failed to realise was that the opposing forces were well positioned to lift up thousands of the mines and turn them back against the Australian Task Force, with horrendous, far-reaching results. For protracted periods, Australia's own M16 mines became the enemy's most effective strike weapons, causing over 50% of all task force casualties. The minefield also guaranteed the enemy's successful defence of its vital area and base complexes against task force incursions.



## Outback

**The Discovery of Australia's Interior**  
Derek PARKER 256pp Pb \$34.95  
In 1800, the coast of Australia had finally been charted, but the vast interior of the continent and routes across its deserts and mountains lay undiscovered. By 1874, its lands had been all but won. Parker gathers together the stories of those intrepid explorers who, often against great odds, on journeys of months or even years, beat starvation, disease and inadequate information to forge a route to enable the country's development. He tells of early explorers such as Major Mitchell, who slaughtered aborigines, and Sir George Grey, who learnt their language and recorded their culture, as well as the greatest overland expedition in Australian history in 1844 and continued failed attempts to find a mythical 'inland sea'. A truly fascinating read. *Due Jun*



# Australian History

## Which School?

### Beyond Public vs Private

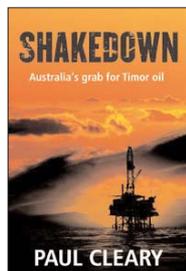
Joanna MENDELSSOHN Pb \$17.95  
Why is it that the middle class is deserting public schools for private schools? What is the private sector offering students that state schools don't? It's not just about money. What has gone wrong with the once-excellent state system and why are governments failing to stop the drift? Mendelsohn, in this examination of what has happened to Australian education, draws upon her own experience as a parent facing the dilemma of 'which school?' She writes that her daughter was betrayed by incompetent teachers working in an uncaring state system. She found that by moving her daughter to the private sector, she received the attention and quality teaching needed to remedy her daughter's reading difficulties. In this quest, she meets teachers, parents and students from public and private, selective and religious, examining the changes that have occurred in education and the consequences for the children and grandchildren of today's parents. *Due Jun*



## Shakedown

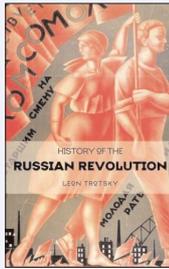
### Australia's Grab for Timor Oil

Paul CLEARY 336pp Pb \$29.95  
In 2000, one of the poorest nations on earth began negotiations with Australia over rights to the lucrative oil and gas resources of the Timor Sea. With the revenue from the oil and gas fields, the young democracy of East Timor would have a chance to secure its economic future - if Australia would allow it. In an ironic twist of fate, East Timor found that Australia, the country which had delivered freedom to the Timorese by intervening against Indonesia's bloody attacks in 1999, was now trying to deny it a fair share of the profits. This is the inside story of Australia's attempts to bully East Timor out of a promising future in the Timor Sea oil dispute. Cleary, a former East Timor government adviser, gives a gripping insider's account of the six years of bruising negotiations between Australia and East Timor that followed the independence ballot. He saw how the Timorese pulled off one of the great David and Goliath feats of the region, but were unable to lay the foundations for a peaceful future. In this compelling insight into Australia's international operations, Cleary exposes the heroes and villains who emerged in a 100-billion-dollar shakedown.



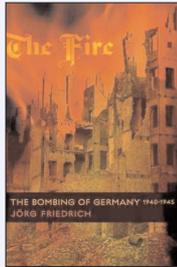
## From the Academic Presses

In **Spy Wars** (304pp Hb \$56), Tennent Bagley, a former CIA chief of counter-intelligence, breaks open the mysterious case of KGB officer Yuri Nosenko's 1964 defection to the US. Still a highly controversial chapter in the history of Cold War espionage, the Nosenko affair has inspired debate for over 40 years: was Nosenko a bona fide defector with the real information about Lee Harvey Oswald's stay in the Soviet Russia or was he a KGB loyalist, engaged in a complex game of deception?



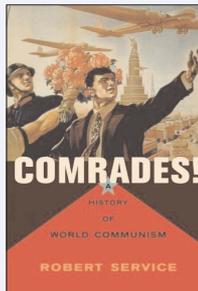
Trotsky's **History of the Russian Revolution** (1,040pp Pb \$54), published for the 90th anniversary of the 1917 Russian Revolution, tells the epic story of the remarkable events that transformed the history of Russia - and the world - forever.

In **The Fire: The Bombing of Germany 1940-1945** (532pp Hb \$67), Jörg Friedrich combines meticulous research with striking illustrations to present a vivid account of saturation bombing, rendering in acute detail the annihilation of cities such as Dresden and Hamburg. He incorporates the personal stories and firsthand testimony of German civilians into his narrative, creating a macabre portrait of unimaginable suffering, horror and grief. He draws on official military documents to unravel the reasoning behind the strikes.



**International Who's Who in Classical Music 2007** (985pp Hb \$675.00) is an unparalleled source of biographical information on singers, instrumentalists, composers, conductors and managers. The directory section lists orchestras, opera companies and other institutions connected with the classical music world. Each biographical entry comprises personal information, principal career details, repertoire, recordings and compositions, and full contact details where available.

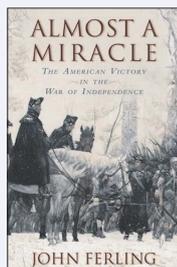
**Comrades: A History of World Communism** (592pp Hb \$70) by Robert Service examines the history of communism throughout the world. It moves from Marx and Lenin to Mao and Castro and beyond to trace communism from its beginnings to the present day. Offering vivid portraits of the protagonists and decisive events in communist history, Service looks not only at the high politics of communist regimes, but also at the social conditions that led millions to support communism in so many countries.



In **Second Chance** (240pp Hb \$49.95), Zbigniew Brzezinski presents a story of wasted opportunity and squandered prestige - the history of the foreign policy of the last three US presidents. Though spanning less than two decades, these administrations cover a vitally important turning point in world history: the period in which the US, having emerged from the Cold War with an unprecedented degree of power and prestige, managed to squander both in a remarkably short time.

**Hubbub: Filth, Noise and Stench in England, 1600-1770** (320pp Hb \$70) by Emily Cockayne transports us to a world where residents were scarred by smallpox, refuse rotted in the streets, pigs and dogs roamed free and food hygiene consisted of little more than spit and polish. Through the stories of a large cast of characters from varied walks of life, the book compares what daily life was like in different cities across England from 1600 to 1770.

In **Almost a Miracle: The American Victory in the War of Independence** (784pp Hb \$59.95), John Ferling transports readers to the grim realities of that war, capturing an eight-year conflict filled with heroism, suffering, cowardice, betrayal and fierce dedication. It was a war that America came much closer to losing than is now usually remembered and this book offers an illuminating portrait of America's triumph, offering vivid descriptions of all the major engagements, from the first shots fired on Lexington Green to the surrender of General Cornwallis at Yorktown, revealing how these battles often hinged on intangibles such as leadership under fire, heroism, good fortune, blunders, tenacity and surprise.



*Dave*

## Philosophy & Religion

### I Am, Therefore I Think

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

Alexander GEORGE 312pp Hb \$35.00

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



### The Science Minister and the Sea Cow

#### 13 Essays on the Nature of Choice

Michael BRISSENDEN et al

177pp Pb \$28.00

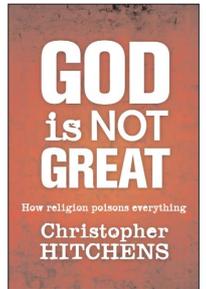
Choice is full of contradictions. Turn on the TV, open a magazine, walk down a city street and the options bombard us. The right to choose is synonymous with our view of freedom, but are we bedevilled by it as much as privileged? And are there some choices we don't know how to make? Taking widely differing approaches, from the intimate to the discursive, the 13 contributors to this collection of essays put choice to the test. Well-known among them are Michael Brissenden, Terry Lane, Paul McDermott, Sara Dowse and Paul Daley.

### God is Not Great

#### How Religion Poisons Everything

Christopher HITCHENS 320pp Tp \$29.95

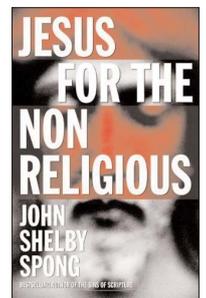
Hitchens, hailed by The London Observer as "one of the most brilliant journalists of our time", makes the ultimate case against religion. With a detailed reading of the major religious texts, he shows religion to be a man-made wish, a cause of dangerous sexual repression, and a distortion of our origins in the cosmos. He frames the argument for a more secular life based on science and reason in which hell is replaced by the Hubble Telescope's awesome view of the universe and Moses and the burning bush give way to the beauty and symmetry of the double helix. *Due Jun*



### Jesus for the Non-Religious

John Shelby SPONG 288pp Tp \$33.00

Spong has been on a lifelong quest to rescue the church from irrelevancy. Now he takes aim at the church's core belief: who is Jesus? He strips the superstitious myths that have attached themselves to this incredible person, such as: that Jesus was born of a virgin in Bethlehem, that his father was Joseph, that he did miracles, that he had 12 disciples, and especially that he physically rose from the dead. Spong explains how these traditions arose by the early disciples, seeing all that Jesus did through the lens of the Hebrew scriptures. We can then see the true Jesus, a heroic figure who revealed divinity through his humanness and can still guide us today. *Due Jun*

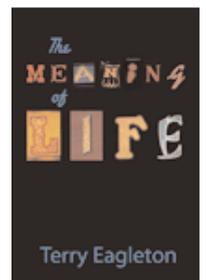


### The Meaning of Life

Terry EAGLETON

200pp Hb \$34.95

We have all wondered about the meaning of life. But is there an answer? And do we even really know what we're asking? Eagleton takes a stimulating and quirky look at this most compelling of questions: at the answers explored in philosophy and literature, at the crisis of meaning in modern times, and suggests his own solution to how we might rediscover meaning in our lives.

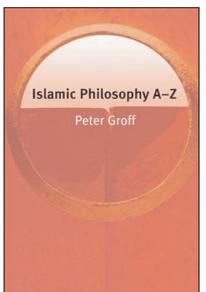


### Islamic Philosophy A-Z

Peter GROFF

224pp Pb \$36.95

All the essential aspects of Islamic philosophy are covered here in over 100 concise, cross-referenced entries. Articles on the Peripatetics, Isma'ilis, Illuminations, Sufis, kalam theologians and later modern thinkers are supplemented by entries on classical Greek influences, as well as Jewish philosophers who lived and worked in the Islamic world. Topical entries cover various issues and key positions in all the major areas of philosophy, making clear why the central problems of Islamic philosophy have been, and remain, matters of rational disputation. *Due Jun*

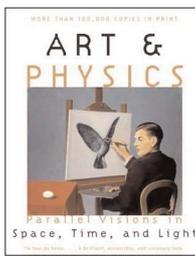


## Art and Physics

### Parallel Visions in Space, Time and Light

Leonard SHLAIN 496pp Pb \$35.00

Art interprets the visible world, while physics charts its unseen workings, making these two realms seem in complete opposition. But this book tracks their development side by side throughout the centuries to reveal an astonishing correlation of visions. From the classical Greek sculptors to Andy Warhol and Jasper Johns, from Aristotle to Einstein, artists have often foreshadowed the theories and discoveries of scientists. In this lively and colorful narrative, Shlain explores how major artistic breakthroughs have prefigured the visionary insights of physicists throughout history.

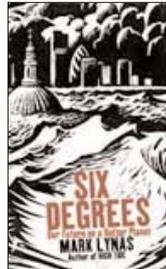


## Six Degrees

### Our Future on a Hotter Planet

Mark LYNAS 384pp Pb \$28.00

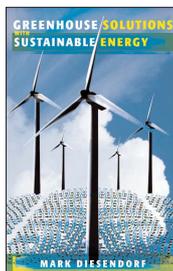
Picture yourself a few decades from now in a world with average temperatures three degrees higher than now. On the edge of Greenland, rivers 10 times the size of the Amazon are gushing off the ice sheet into the north Atlantic. Displaced victims of North Africa's drought establish a new colony on Greenland's southern tip, one of the few inhabitable areas not already crowded with environmental refugees. Vast pumping systems keep the water out of most of Holland, but the residents of Bangladesh and the Nile Delta enjoy no such protection. Meanwhile, in New York, a Category 5-plus super-storm pushes through the narrows between Staten Island and Brooklyn, devastating waterside areas from Long Island to Manhattan... Alien as it all sounds, Lynas's incredible new book is not science fiction, nor is it sensationalist. The six degrees of the title refer to the terrifying possibility that average temperatures will rise by up to six degrees within the next 100 years. This is the first time we have had a reliable picture of how the collapse of our civilisation will unfold unless urgent action is taken. Most vitally, Lynas highlights the fact that the world of 2100 doesn't have to be one of horror and chaos. With a little foresight, some intelligent strategic planning and a reasonable dose of good luck, we can at least halt the catastrophic trend into which we have fallen. But the time to act is now. *Due Jun*



## Greenhouse Solutions with Sustainable Energy

Mark DIESENDORF 432pp Pb \$49.95

Global warming is the most dangerous environmental problem and the most difficult political issue to be faced by the world in the 21st century. Diesendorf critically assesses the various technologies that have been put forward as solutions and constructs feasible scenarios for their effective implementation. He argues that: ecologically sustainable energy technologies based on energy efficiency, renewable energy and natural gas are commercially available today, and that their implementation could halve Australia's greenhouse gas emissions within just a few decades. To implement these technologies, new policies must be developed and implemented by all three levels of government. The book argues that, despite being dependent on coal and oil, Australia could achieve an ecologically sustainable energy system. All we need is the political will.

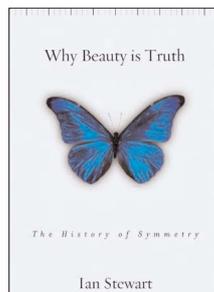


## Why Beauty is Truth

### The History of Symmetry

Ian STEWART 304pp Hb \$49.95

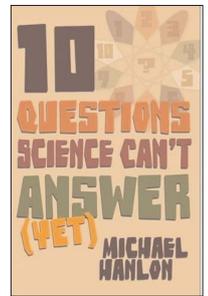
Leading mathematician Ian Stewart explores a concept both simple and complex, both multi-disciplinary and unifying - symmetry. There is no more important concept in the history of mathematics and physics than symmetry. It lies at the heart of relativity theory, quantum mechanics, string theory and much of modern cosmology. Stewart narrates the history of the emergence of this remarkable area of study, from its roots in 10th century BC Babylon to its current role in 21st century physics. He introduces us to such characters as the Renaissance Italian genius, rogue, scholar and gambler Girolamo Cardano, who stole the modern method of solving cubic equations and published it in the first important book on algebra, and the young revolutionary Evariste Galois, who refashioned the whole of mathematics and founded the field of group theory only to die in pointless duel over a woman before his work was published. Weaving mathematical theory with the fascinating and often dramatic stories of the people involved, this is a lively, readable and accessible book for casual and specialised readers alike. *Due Jun*



## Ten Questions Science Can't Answer (Yet)

Michael HANLON 300pp Pb \$29.95

Science is littered with gaping holes, the elephants in the room of human understanding that simply won't go away. The questions that form the basis of this book are often ignored because they are too hard, embarrassing, costly or controversial to answer. They include: Where did language come from? How did life begin? Why are there two sexes? They are the questions that, when asked properly, will thoroughly embarrass an egghead.

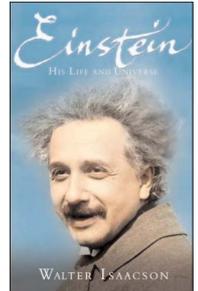


## Einstein

### His Life and Universe

Walter ISAACSON 704pp Hb \$49.95

Einstein is the great icon of our age: the kindly refugee from oppression whose wild halo of hair, twinkling eyes, engaging humanity and extraordinary brilliance made his face a symbol and his name a synonym for genius. He was a rebel and nonconformist from boyhood days. His character, creativity and imagination were related, and they drove his life and his science. In this marvellously clear and accessible narrative, Isaacson explains how his mind worked and the mysteries of the universe he discovered. His success came from questioning conventional wisdom and marvelling at mysteries that struck others as mundane. This led him to embrace a worldview based on respect for free spirits and free individuals. All this helped make him a rebel, but with a reverence for the harmony of nature, one with just the right blend of imagination and wisdom to transform our understanding of the universe.

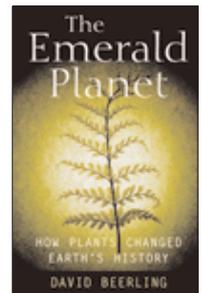


## The Emerald Planet

### How Plants Changed Earth's History

David BEERLING 304pp Hb \$46.95

Far from being 'silent witnesses to the passage of time', plants are dynamic components of our world, shaping our environment throughout history as much as our environment has shaped them. Beerling draws together evidence from fossil plants, from experiments with their living counterparts, and from computer models of the 'Earth System', to illuminate the history of our planet and its biodiversity. This new approach reveals how plummeting carbon dioxide levels removed a barrier to the evolution of the leaf; how forests once grew on Antarctica; how plants played a starring role in allowing spectacular giant insects to thrive in the Carboniferous; and strengthens fascinating and contentious fossil evidence for an ancient hole in the ozone layer. Along the way, he introduces a lively cast of pioneering scientists from Victorian times onwards, whose discoveries provided the crucial background to these and the other puzzles. This new understanding of our planet's past sheds a sobering light on our own climate-changing activities and offers clues to what our climatic and ecological futures might look like.

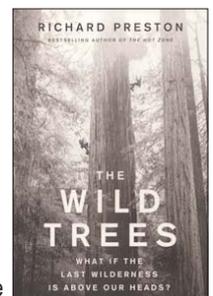


## The Wild Trees

### What if the Last Wilderness is Above Our Heads?

Richard PRESTON 256pp Tp \$32.95

Hidden in unseen valleys of dense rainforest on the coast of California are the world's tallest and largest trees. These coastal redwoods are as high as 40-story buildings and as old as the Parthenon. Mysterious and unexplored, few people know how to find them and fewer still have climbed them to study their upper reaches to discover their wonders. This is the astonishing story of a handful of wild tree-climbers and amateur naturalists who are now working in the redwood canopy, climbing and exploring this enchanted and dangerous new world. The canopy is a mysterious place filled with hanging gardens of ferns, mosses and lichens, a massive system of aerial trunks that have fused to form walkways, where redwoods begin to grow on other redwoods 300 feet in the air.



## Briefly noted...

New in paperback is **The Cloudspotter's Guide** (320pp \$19.95) by Gavin Pretor-Pinney. This is both a guide to clouds and a celebration of them. There are chapters on all the main cloud types, as well as the contrails left by aircraft and the spectacular Morning Glory, which forms in the Gulf of Carpentaria and is 'surf'ed by gliders.

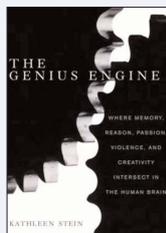
**Voluntary Carbon Markets** (176pp Hb \$79.95) edited by Ricardo Bayon et al draws together all the key information on international voluntary carbon markets, with commentary from leading practitioners and business people. The book covers all aspects of voluntary carbon markets in the US, Europe, Australia, Canada and Asia: what they are, how they work and, most critically, their business potential to help slow climate change.

All the material in Adrian Banner's **Calculus Lifesaver** (752pp Pb \$49.95) has been proven to get results. The book arose from his popular calculus review course at Princeton University, which he developed especially for students who are motivated to earn A's, but get only average grades in exams. The complete course will be available for free on the web in a series of videotaped lectures (www.calclifesaver.com). This study guide works as a supplement to any single-variable calculus course or textbook. Coupled with a selection of exercises, it can also be used as a textbook in its own right.

**Into that Silent Sea** (397pp Hb \$59.95) by Francis French and Colin Burgess is the first in a series of books on the history of manned spaceflight. It focuses on the extraordinary people who found themselves propelled into space on top of rockets, ready to take a decisive step into a largely unknown realm.

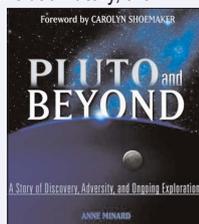
In **Chaos: A Very Short Introduction** (180pp Pb \$22.95), Leonard Smith shows we all have an intuitive understanding of chaotic systems. He uses accessible maths and physics (replacing complex equations with simple examples like pendulums, railway lines and tossing coins) to explain the theory and points to numerous examples in philosophy and literature (Edgar Allen Poe, Chang-Tzu, Arthur Conan Doyle) that illuminate the problems.

In **The Genius Engine** (292pp Hb \$41.95), Kathleen Stein takes an enthralling, in-depth look at the prefrontal cortex - the site of our working memory, impulse control, reason, perception, decision-making and emotional processing, all the things that comprise our human genius.



Stuart Clark's **The Sun Kings: The Unexpected Tragedy of Richard Carrington and the Tale of How Modern Astronomy Began** (211pp Hb \$49.95) tells for the first time the full story behind Carrington's observations of a mysterious explosion on the surface of the Sun and how his brilliant insight - that the Sun's magnetism directly influences the Earth - helped usher in the modern era of astronomy. Clark vividly brings to life the scientists who roundly rejected the significance of Carrington's discovery of solar flares, as well as those who took up his struggle to prove the notion that the Earth could be touched by influences from space.

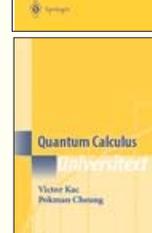
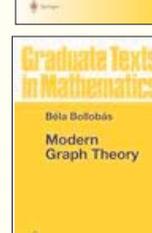
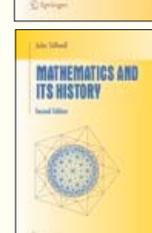
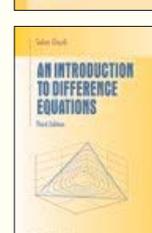
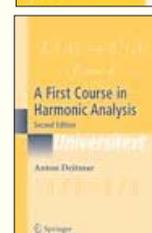
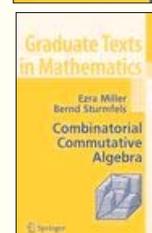
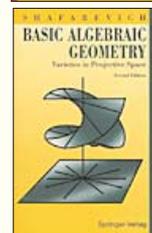
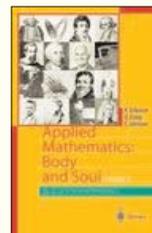
**Pluto and Beyond** (182pp Pb \$39.95) by Anne Minard tells the story of Lowell Observatory, the place where Pluto was discovered in 1930. It looks at the wide-ranging contributions to astronomy that have been made by Lowell astronomers such as Vesto Slipher, David Levy and Otto Franz. *Dave*



# SPRINGER YELLOW SALE

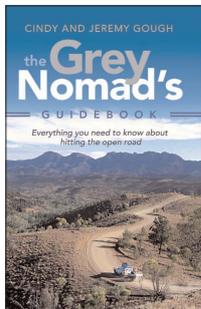
Look out for the following Springer Verlag titles with the distinctive yellow covers in the Mathematics section! This is a selection of titles drastically reduced until 31 July or until stocks last. For a full list of sale titles go to [www.abbey.com.au](http://www.abbey.com.au) and follow the prompts to the Springer Yellow Sale.

		was	now
<b>Algebra</b>	HUNGERFORD	Pb \$89.95	\$44.95
<b>Algebra</b>	LANG	Hb \$126.95	\$66.95
<b>Algebraic Surfaces</b>	BADESCU	Hb \$94.95	\$49.95
<b>Applied Mathematics: Body and Soul V3: Calculus in Several Dimensions</b>	ERIKSSON & ESTEP	Hb \$84.95	\$44.95
<b>Basic Algebraic Geometry I: Varieties in Projective Space</b>	SHAFAREVICH	Pb \$106.95	\$55.95
<b>A Basic Course in Algebraic Topology</b>	MASSEY	Hb \$139.95	\$73.95
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<b>Complexity and Real Computation</b>	BLUM, ET AL	Hb \$106.95	\$55.95
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<b>Digraphs: Theory Algorithms and Applications</b>	BANG-JENSEN	Pb \$126.95	\$66.95
<b>Elementary Number Theory</b>	JONES	Pb \$69.95	\$37.95
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<b>Introduction to Partial Differential Equations</b>	TVEITO	Hb \$106.95	\$55.95
<b>Lectures on Partial Differential Equations</b>	ARNOLD	Pb \$84.95	\$44.95
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<b>Matrix Groups: An Introduction to Lie Group Theory</b>	BAKER	Pb \$84.95	\$44.95
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<b>Modern Geometry: Methods and Applications</b>	DUBROVIN & FOMENKO	Hb \$126.95	\$66.95
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<b>Representations of Compact Lie Groups</b>	BROCKER	Hb \$126.95	\$66.95
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<b>Sheaves in Topology</b>	DIMCA	Pb \$64.95	\$44.95
<b>A Singular Introduction to Commutative Algebra</b>	GREUEL	Pb \$94.95	\$49.95
<b>Some Tapes of Computer Algebra</b>	COHEN	Hb \$94.95	\$49.95
<b>Special Relativity</b>	WOODHOUSE	Tp \$69.95	\$37.95
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<b>Understanding Analysis</b>	ABBOTT	Hb \$84.95	\$44.95
<b>Unsolved Problems in Number Theory</b>	GUY	Hb \$126.95	\$66.95



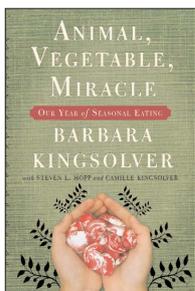
**The Grey Nomad's Guidebook**

Cindy & Jeremy GOUGH 420pp Pb \$24.95  
The Big Lap around the country has become something of a rite of passage for older Australians. Statistics tell us there are more grey nomads than ever before, with some 60% of new caravans purchased by over-55s. Researchers explain the trend by saying this generation of retirees is fitter, more financially secure and more adventurous than ever. This comprehensive guide covers: financing and planning a long-term trip; choosing a rig; when and where to go; health on the road; setting up camp; hobbies and pursuits; safety and maintenance; a state-by-state analysis, with maps on favoured routes and destinations.



**Animal, Vegetable, Miracle  
Our Year of Seasonal Eating**

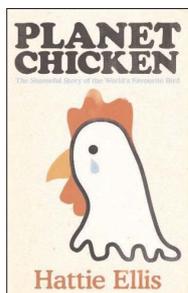
Barbara KINGSOLVER 384pp Pb \$32.95  
When Barbara Kingsolver and her family move from suburban Arizona to rural Appalachia, they take on a new challenge: to spend a year on a locally-produced diet, paying close attention to the provenance of all they consume. They find themselves eager to move away from the all-too-familiar scenario of most families: a refrigerator packed with processed, factory-farmed foods transported long distances using nonrenewable fuels. Believing that most of us have better options available, Kingsolver and her family set out to prove for themselves that a local diet is not just better for the economy and the environment, but also better on the table. Their search leads them through a season of planting, pulling weeds, expanding their kitchen skills and harvesting their own animals. Inspired by the flavours and culinary arts of a local culture, they explore farmers' markets and diversified organic farms at home and across the country, discovering a booming movement with devotees from all over America. Kingsolver makes a passionate case for putting the kitchen back at the centre of family life and diversified farms at the centre of our diet. *Due Jun*



**Planet Chicken**

**The Shameful Story of the World's Favourite Bird**

Hattie ELLIS 320pp Hb \$35.00  
This is an eye-opening book about the bird we eat and mistreat the most. Ellis traces the chicken's evolution and history in farming, revealing the grotesque scandal of the modern chicken industry and its effect on our health. But she also talks to chicken lovers around the world, from West Indian jerk-chicken stall holders to Provencal chefs and the pioneers who are bringing real chicken back to our tables.



**Once Upon a Time in Beirut  
A Journey to the Heart**

Catherine TAYLOR Pb \$24.95  
When the opportunity arose for journalist Catherine Taylor and her husband to move to Lebanon, they didn't think twice about leaving their comfortable life in Sydney. Catherine soon fell in love with the Paris of the Middle East and became fascinated by the complexity of its people: their exuberant and loving nature seemed to belie the many dark years of bloodshed and conflict they had endured. She set about trying to understand the region, interviewing the wives of suicide bombers, Lebanese hashish farmers, stricken Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, female boxing contestants in Cairo, Hezbollah fighters and even Osama bin Laden's best friend. She also witnessed firsthand the impact of 9/11 on the region. Gradually she learnt to negotiate these very different cultures with humour and more than the occasional faux pas. When she reluctantly left after several years, she vowed to return. In 2006, after the violence flared up again between Israel and Lebanon, she went back to see how her adopted country and friends had coped and how, with their remarkable resilience, they saw the way forward. *Due Jun*



**The Assault on Reason  
How the Politics of Fear, Secrecy and Blind Faith Subvert Wise Decision-making, Degrade Democracy and Imperil America and the World**

AL GORE 352pp Tp \$32.95  
At the time when George W Bush ordered American forces to invade Iraq, 70% of Americans believed Saddam Hussein was linked to 9/11. Voters in Ohio, when asked by pollsters to list what stuck in their minds about the campaign, most frequently named two Bush television advertisements that played to fears of terrorism. We live in an age when the 30-second television spot is the most powerful force shaping the electorate's thinking and when America is in the hands of an administration less interested than any previous administration in sharing the truth with the citizenry. Never has there been a worse time for the US to lose the capacity to face the reality of long-term challenges, from national security to the economy, from issues of health and social welfare to the environment. As Gore shows us, there is precious little time to waste. *Due Jun*

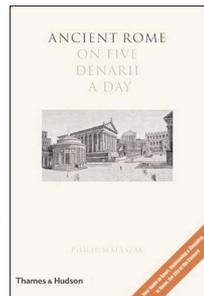
THE ASSAULT ON REASON

How the Politics of Fear, Secrecy and Blind Faith Subvert Wise Decision-Making, Degrade Democracy and Imperil America and the World

AL GORE

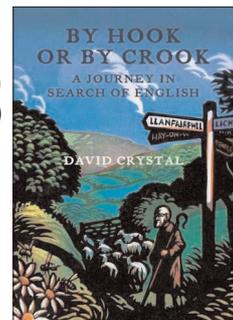
**Ancient Rome  
On Five Denarii a Day**

Philip MATYSZAK 160pp Hb \$39.95  
It's 200AD and you, the well-versed traveller, want to travel to Rome to see the sights. This guide tells you everything you need - how to get there, where to stay, what to buy, the best entertainments, the must-see places and suggested walking tours. It briefs you on law and order issues, religious practices and the environs of Rome. Illustrated with computer-generated images of Ancient Rome, this is one guide you definitely need to enjoy your journey! *Lindy*



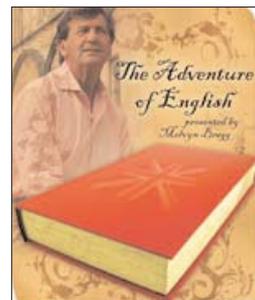
**By Hook or by Crook  
A Journey in Search of English**

David CRYSTAL 320pp Pb Tp \$30.00  
Inspired by Sebald's *The Rings of Saturn* (Pb \$24.95) and Bill Bryson's books, Crystal has combined personal reflections, historical allusions and traveller observations to create a mesmerising and entertaining narrative detailing his encounters with the English language and its speakers throughout the world - from Bangor to Bombay, from Stratford to San Francisco. This is an attempt to capture the exploratory, seductive, teasing, tantalising nature of language study. *Due Jun*



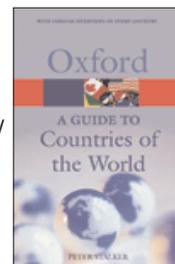
**The Adventure of English  
The Biography of a Language**

Melvyn Bragg 2 DVDs \$29.95  
Melvyn Bragg travels through Britain to tell the story of how an insignificant German dialect, which only arrived in the country in the 5th century, evolved into a language which is now spoken and understood by more people than any other language. From its humble roots to its flowering in the writing of Shakespeare and his contemporaries, English is a now global language.



**A Guide to Countries of the World**

Peter STALKER 432pp Pb \$32.95  
The second edition of this invaluable reference work has been painstakingly updated and revised to feature the very latest information in an overview of each country in the world. Features include up-to-date maps and vital statistics for every country; double-page spreads with maps and geographical details alongside concise overviews of the social, economic and political issues shaping each country; global data tables showing social and economic indicators such as GNP, life expectancy and population growth/density of each country side-by-side for easy comparison. In today's world, changes in geography and demography can have serious international implications.

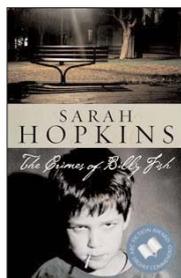


**Typewriter Music**

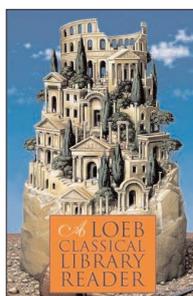
David MALOUF 96pp Hb \$29.95  
A brilliant collection of poems beginning with a memory of new love and ending in the intimate territory of the long-familiar where there is no need for words. *Due Jun*

One Sunday in the shop, two overseas visitors asked me where they could find information about Sydney. I suggested they call into the very spacious City of Sydney Library, now housed in the Customs House Building at Circular Quay. The information counter on the ground floor has a number of excellent pamphlets for Historical Walking Tours around Sydney. You can also read newspapers from interstate and overseas, and sit quietly in the lounge area while you wait for a friend to arrive. A good place to remember.

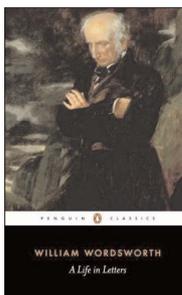
When I saw the title, **The Crimes of Billy Fish**, by Sarah Hopkins (\$22.95 Pb 294pp), I assumed it was a detective story. More Australian writers are contributing to this genre (we have a separate section for Australian Crime novels) and Sarah Hopkins is a local lawyer. The title reminded me of Marele Day's **The Life and Crimes of Harry Lavender** (\$19.95 Pb 176pp). Both good titles which roll off the tongue. However, **The Crimes of Billy Fish** is not detective fiction, but an excellent novel set in Sydney about a man just leaving prison after serving time for a violent crime. He and his sister (who has her life all together) were maltreated as children, so no surprise he has ended up a druggie and a criminal. Yet somehow, when his sister suffers a tragic loss in a car accident, he finds it possible to ease away from his past life and help her. Very well written, with understanding, but no excuses.



Harvard University Press tell us we are one of the top two stockists of Loeb Classics in the world, so thank you to our well-educated readers of the Greek and Roman Classics in the original dual-language format. Loeb have recently published their Five Hundredth title. Still only \$49.95 each Hb. I wonder if there is a Latin word for '500th'? Peter Milne tells me the new catalogue is due soon. We still have copies of the 2006 catalogue, so please ask if you would like one. We also still have the **Loeb Classic Library Reader** (\$19.95 Pb 234pp), a selection of enduring gems in both Greek and Latin. Peter has gone off for some weeks to have a knee operation, so customers who are used to consulting him will miss him (as will we).



It is easy to overlook the arrival of a new title in the Classics row, but I recently found a delightful new title. It could have been in either Biography or Literary Criticism, which validates my advice to browse in the Classics row - there are many nice surprises there. The book is **Wordsworth: A Life in Letters** (\$24.95 Pb 347pp incl index). Despite Wordsworth's vehement dislike of the habit of publishing private letters, his biographer Juliet Barker has found good reason to go ahead, selecting letters not only from and to Wordsworth, but also from members of his family (in addition to sister Dorothy). She loyally shows the radical young poet rising to revered patriarch, despite publishing for more than 30 years without profit and often the subject of strong criticism. His habit of dictating letters, when possible, led to some long-windedness, although it was just as well, as his handwriting was appalling. The 8-volume Clarendon Press edition of **The Letters of William and Dorothy Wordsworth** (we used to have these on the shelves behind the counter in our old Oxford & Cambridge Bookshop) is the basis, but many letters have been newly transcribed. This is a delightful book.



In the same aisle in Literary Criticism, I found two interesting titles: **Life After Death: The Art of the Obituary** by Nigel Starck (\$29.95 Hb 256pp incl index). He discusses the role of obituary, from earliest times when it was the preserve of royalty and privilege, to the modern egalitarian approach, and includes 10 full obituaries, including one for Diana Moseley. The other title is **The Concord Quartet: Alcott, Emerson, Hawthorne, Thoreau and the Friendship that Freed the American Mind** (\$38.95 Hb 256pp). This is of course Louisa M's father. This excellent book has nice typeface, nice paper and good binding. As it deserves!

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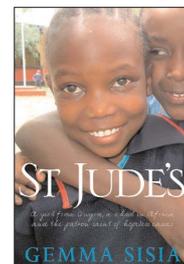
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'Science: History & Biography' is one of my favourite sections. I'm not at all scientific, but I know how important science is and I enjoy reading about the personal side of discoveries. Also, I have noticed that, in our famous Mathematics section, it is Geometry that sells least, so I was pleased to see a book by Siobhan Roberts called **King of Infinite Space: Donald Coxeter, the Man who Saved Geometry** (\$56 Hb 399pp incl index and notes and with a foreword by Douglas Hofstadter, author of the famous **Godel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid** \$45 Pb 824pp). This is described as "an elegant biography of an elegant man who upheld the tradition of classical geometry under attack from all things algebraic". Have you noticed how often the word elegant is used in mathematics? Coxeter influenced many, from Escher and Buckminster Fuller to computer graphics. There is a long-awaited new title due from Hofstadter, **I am a Strange Loop** (\$35 Hb).

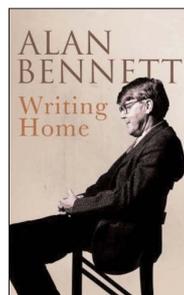
If the cares of the world have been pressing upon you lately, you might like to read a Good News Story. This is **St Jude's: A Girl from Guyra, a School in Africa and the Patron Saint of Hopeless Causes** by Gemma Sisia (\$32.95 Pb 233pp). You will feel a lot better afterwards because Gemma manages to be positive, no matter what difficulties confront her. A young countrywoman with a desire to teach and to help, married to a handsome Tanzanian safari driver, Gemma has, with much help from Rotary Clubs and individuals, set up a successful school in Tanzania for bright, very poor children. (If your house has as a cement floor and electricity, you are not eligible for this school). Practical, with a good heart and a clear head, Gemma is a whiz at inspiring people, raising funds and spending them carefully. You might have seen this story on ABC-TV, but do yourself a favour and read this.



Daughter Jane, still working on the Burma border, wanted me to send her a DVD of the wonderful Aboriginal film, **Ten Canoes** (\$34.95). Just by chance I looked on our Abbey's website and lo and behold we had a copy in Language Book Centre! Victor, who orders our films, has great taste and you will find all sorts of interesting DVDs up on the first floor. Greg Waldron, a very experienced bookseller who has just come to work at Abbey's, says this section is sending him poor (despite the very good staff discount).

For old time's sake, I read a collection of five short stories by E L Doctorow called **Sweet Land Stories** (\$22.95 Pb 180pp). The first could have been written 30 years ago, the last could only have been written since 9/11. All show his scrupulous observation of the American Life. Very enjoyable. His most recent book was **The March** (\$24.95 Pb), set in the American Civil War, but my favourite was **Ragtime** (\$24.95 Pb 388pp), set at the turn of the century and to do with the murder of architect Stanford Whyte.

What is the difference between a load of old drivel and an absorbing description of commonplace lives? I'd have to say Alan Bennett! His **Writing Home** (\$27.95 Pb) is a gem. I am reading this intermittently (because it has 657 pages) and recommend it as a book to have by you to fill a pleasant half-hour. It contains his Diaries 1980-95 and lots of 'pieces' which he wrote for either the BBC or *The London Review of Books*. Ordinary events made extraordinary by his glinting eye. I was interested to read that both Bennett and Dudley Moore were Oxford students, yet whenever Beyond the Fringe is mentioned these days, the members are all referred to as Cambridge Men?



I found a gorgeous book in Art/Architecture: Australian. This is **Art Deco in Australia: Sunrise Over the Pacific** (\$100 Hb 204pp incl index) edited by Mark Ferson and Mary Nilsson. The excellent text is complemented by lots of illustrations and includes furniture, ceramics, jewellery, fashion and architecture. Enjoy!

Do you remember the Rubbery Figures political cartoons on TV? Peter Nicholson is now doing these for the Australian newspaper as a free email. You can subscribe or unsubscribe at will and it is absolutely free. These animated, coloured cartoons take about one minute to play. Paul Jennings does most of the voice-overs. You will enjoy them. The link is [www.nicholsoncartoons.com.au/alerts.php](http://www.nicholsoncartoons.com.au/alerts.php)

Keep well,

Eve



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- 10 **Orpheus Lost** by Janette Turner Hospital (Tp \$33.00)

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

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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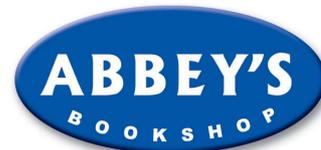
**Love Over Scotland** by Alexander McCall Smith \$22.95  
 With his characteristic warmth, inventiveness and brilliant wit, McCall Smith gives us more of the gloriously entertaining comings and goings at 44 Scotland Street, the Edinburgh townhouse.

**Mothers and Sons** by Colm Toibin \$22.95  
 A sensitive and beautifully written meditation on the dramas surrounding this most elemental of relationships.

**Digging to America** by Anne Tyler \$23.95  
 Using a deceptively small domestic canvas and subtly large themes, Tyler delivers another gem about belonging and otherness, insiders and outsiders, pride and prejudice, young love and unexpected old love, families and the impossibility of ever getting it right.

**The Eagle in the Sand #7** by Simon Scarrow \$19.95  
 Trouble is brewing in Syria on the eastern frontier of the Roman Empire. With the troops in a deplorable state, centurions Macro and Cato are despatched to restore the competence of the cohort.

**Richard Dawkins: How a Scientist Changed the Way We Think**  
 Edited by Alan Grafen & Mark Ridley \$26.95  
 Specially commissioned pieces by leading figures in science, philosophy, literature and the media, such as Daniel Dennett, Matt Ridley, Steven Pinker, Philip Pullman and the Bishop of Oxford, highlight the breadth and range of Dawkins' influence on modern science and culture, from the gene's eye view of evolution to his energetic engagement in public debates on science, rationalism and religion.



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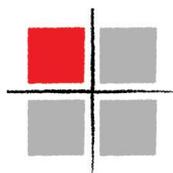


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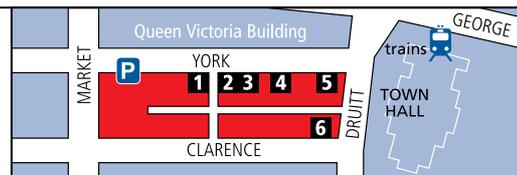
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