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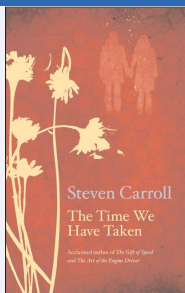
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Miles Franklin Winner 2008

The Time We Have Taken

Steven CARROLL 327pp Tp \$28.00

This is the third in his series about the inhabitants of an outer Melbourne suburb for each decade after WWII. The first is *The Art of the Engine Driver* (\$22.95 Pb 278pp), followed by *The Gift of Speed* (\$22.95 Pb 448pp), both of which were shortlisted for the *Miles Franklin*. These are, in my opinion, Australian classics. Very little happens, but each moment is carefully contemplated. The style is measured and intimate. Only to be read slowly. Do have a look. *Eve*



This is the Mass

The Catholic Weekly 160pp Lp \$40.00

With lucid text and beautiful photographic images, this new coffee table book proudly published by The Catholic Weekly explains the Eucharist, the supreme sacrament of the Catholic Church. Featuring the Archbishop of Sydney, George Cardinal Pell, as the celebrant in Sydney's stunning St Mary's Cathedral, with images taken by multi-award winning photographer Bob Armstrong, it takes us step-by-step through the sacred liturgy. A 16-page pictorial essay on Sydney makes this an ideal souvenir of World Youth Day 08. Cardinal Pell explains in the foreword that this is the latest and most thorough general commentary since Vatican II. "Its learned and lucid text and the beauty of the photographs open our hearts and minds to the wonder and glory of the Mass... simply beautiful".



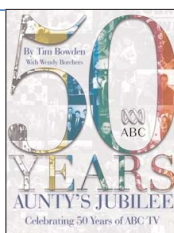
Signed copies at half price!

Aunty's Jubilee

Celebrating 50 Years of ABC TV

Tim BOWDEN 320pp Hb was \$59.95 now \$30

From its not-so-smooth launch in November 1956 from a studio in Kings Cross, some of the best-loved, most iconic programs in Australian memory have been seen on the ABC. Here are some memories you are sure to remember, some so vividly that it will seem like yesterday that you watched them! Bowden remembers decade-by-decade the great shows, brilliant mini-series and drama, cutting-edge current affairs, the springboard to success for so many young comedians, plus the changes to the ABC itself, the way the public broadcaster has evolved and grown, the successes and challenges to maintain its integrity and live up to its charter to be the most trusted public institution in Australia.



Abbey's Turns 40

A Continuing Retrospective - Part 7

Last month I mentioned only some of the many alterations to our layout at 131 York Street. So I thought this photo of Jack Winning, complete with draft floor plans, peering into the computer should be seen. Jack has not only initiated all these changes, he has done the nitty gritty detail as well. And of course lots of staff have done plenty of physical hard work in addition to bookselling.



There have also been huge improvements in the way we access information. In the early days, we had two huge red volumes of British Books in Print. We even had a special lectern built to house these great lumps so we could open them more easily.

We then had a microfiche reader and each month received a set of fiche from D W Thorpe, which gave the latest updated information for British titles, and a separate set for Australian titles, and yet another from Bowker providing American Books in Print. We also had a microfiche from a number of suppliers, including Cambridge, Oxford, Penguin and US wholesaler Baker & Taylor.

The next move was to CD-ROM, first on one computer, then networked. This proved to be much easier on the eyes than the microfiche and, in theory, faster.

Now this is all done via websites, which has the advantage of providing some indication of availability. Most of these websites are updated daily. Now our information terminals have five or more browsers open to enable quick access to information for our demanding customers. These include:

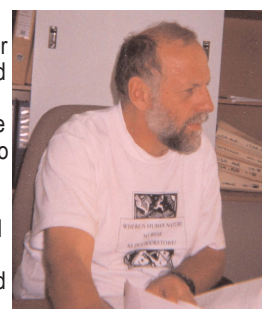
TitlePage, a company set up by the major Australian publishers, which reflects the status of titles distributed by these publishers, including indicative stockholding. It is regularly extended to include additional distributors and is fast approaching a million titles available in the Australian market.

BookData's BookFind, which covers the whole English language, but is best for Australian and British books.

Bowker's Global Books in Print, which covers the English language, but is best for American titles.

We also have access to stockholding and bibliographic information from two US wholesalers - Baker & Taylor and Ingrams - and British wholesaler Gardners, as well as most publishers' websites.

Changes have also taken place with our record of what is in stock or on order. In the early days, we used stock cards, filled in manually, a truly laborious process. In 1989, we began putting our stockholding onto a point of sale computer system, which has been improved over the years, and now all the terminals tell us what is in stock or on order. Computerisation has also improved our handling of special orders, which now run to over 1,000 a month.



Jack Winning working on the new floor plan circa 1998.

Eve Abbey

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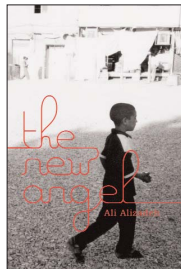
see details page 3

The New Angel

Ali ALIZADEH

256pp Pb \$27.95

This book floored me. There are scenes in this novel that imprint themselves onto your brain, where they tend to reside for days. The story concerns Bahram, currently living in Australia, who after receiving a phone call from someone in his past, begins to recall his time growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution and the Iran-Iraq war, and of his burgeoning love for Fereshteh (Persian for 'angel'). Much of the novel mirrors Alizadeh's own story and it is the blurring of fact and fiction that makes this book so potent. His anger at fundamentalism is so heartfelt that it is impossible to engage with the story from a detached distance. The vitriolic tone that seethes through the novel leaves the reader in no doubt about the suffocating atmosphere such regimes pose on its citizens. This is not the book to read if you're looking for cold, objective reportage. This is a man trying to show that no matter where you run, the past is always there waiting for its moment to tap you on the shoulder. And despite oppressive circumstances, poetry (and all that word entails) and possibly even redemption, is attainable. *Greg*

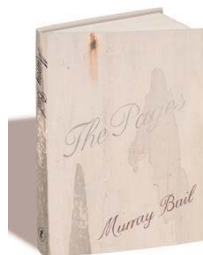


The Pages

Murray BAIL

224pp Hb \$34.95

At dawn, two women leave Sydney to drive over the Blue Mountains into the dry outback landscape and the home of the late philosopher Wesley Antill. A man who thought his name too light for a philosopher and his ears outlandish. Erica, a philosopher herself, has been asked by her university to review Wesley's work, to read his notes, the pages. They are as Wesley left them, unread, untouched, at the rural property run by Wesley's sister Lindsey and brother Roger. Sophie, a psychologist whose professional skills in listening seem to be confined to her patients, accompanies her friend, painting her toenails in the passenger seat and reeling off her opinions of the various qualities of her current man. At the homestead, Roger Antill manages the feed, water, fencing, and shearing requirements of 10,000 merinos, and Lindsey dresses in dark velvet for dinner. And the pages, far from lying in ordered in a philosopher's study, are piled amongst handfuls of wool, wheat sacks and a discarded bottle of tomato sauce in the woolshed. *Due Jul*



One Foot Wrong

Sofie LAGUNA

256pp Pb \$24.95

A child is imprisoned in a house by her reclusive religious parents. Hester has never seen the outside world; her companions are Cat, Spoon, Door, Handle, Broom, and they all speak to her. Her imagination is informed by one book, an illustrated child's bible, and its imagery forms the sole basis for her capacity to make poetic connection. One day Hester takes a brave Alice in Wonderland trip into the forbidden outside (at the behest of Handle - 'turn me, turn me'), and this overwhelming encounter with light and sky and sunshine is a marvel to her. From this moment on, Hester learns the concept of the secret, and not telling, and the world becomes something that fills her with feeling as if she is a vessel, empty and bottomless for need of it. The story told by Hester is often dark and terrible, but the brilliance of her language and the imagery that illuminates the pages make this an enlightening experience. *Due Jul*

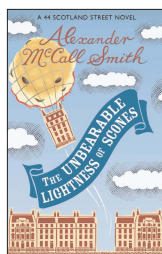


The Unbearable Lightness of Scones

Alexander McCall SMITH

368pp Hb \$34.95

The story of Bertie and his dysfunctional family continues in this fifth instalment of life at 44 Scotland Street, alongside the familiar cast of favourites Big Lou, Domenica, Angus Lordie, Cyril and others in their daily pursuit of a little happiness. With customary charm and deftness, McCall Smith has again given us a clever, witty and utterly delightful new novel. *Due Jul*

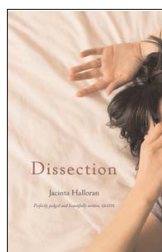


Dissection

Jacinta HALLORAN

240pp Pb \$27.95

Dr Anna McBride has been sued for medical negligence, a case of delayed diagnosis necessitating the amputation of a young man's leg. As the date for mediation draws closer, Anna's world begins to fray at the edges. Her daily work as a doctor, once routine, becomes increasingly difficult as she scrutinises her every action and questions her worth. Deeply ashamed of her mistake, she retreats into family life, only to become aware of her husband's growing interest in a younger woman. As the lawyers' demands become ever more pressing, Anna also vaguely senses someone else's cries for attention - someone who wishes her harm. Will her work, her marriage, her family survive? *Due Jul*

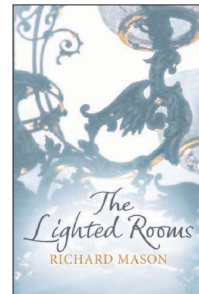


The Lighted Rooms

Richard MASON

400pp Tp \$33.00

Eloise has spent the last 18 months checking out retirement homes for (and with) her beloved mother Joan. Joan has no desire to shift from her little flat, but its lease is up and as she is now in her 80s and secretly communing with strange objects, she is made to feel that a home would be best. Eloise is grappling with the monstrous guilt of not having her mother to live with her, but she is a disciplined financial adviser with a demanding worklife and the need to have her own space. It doesn't help that her brother Gordon has run off to Australia and conveniently left everything up to her; nor that she has taken a stupendous gamble on a commodity on hearing a chance remark from an ex-lover, which has not paid off. In an effort to make up to her mother, they go to South Africa for the 'trip of a lifetime', to retrace Joan's Boer heritage. The narrative weaves many disparate strands - the atrocities of the concentration camps for Boer women and children, commodity markets, Victorian-age history, the problems of ageing and adolescence - but it a cohesive and powerful novel. Immensely satisfying, with believable characters. *Lindy*



The Forgotten Garden

Kate MORTON

512pp Tp \$32.95

On the eve of WWI, a little girl is found abandoned on a ship to Australia. A mysterious woman called the Authoress had promised to look after her, but the Authoress has disappeared without a trace. On the night of her 21st birthday, Nell O'Connor learns a secret that will change her life forever. Decades later, she embarks upon a search for the truth that leads her to the windswept Cornish coast and the strange and beautiful Blackhurst Manor, once owned by the aristocratic Mountrachet family. On Nell's death, her granddaughter Cassandra comes into an unexpected inheritance. Cliff Cottage and its forgotten garden are notorious among the Cornish locals for the secrets they hold, secrets about the doomed Mountrachet family and their ward Eliza Makepeace, a writer of dark Victorian fairytales. It is here that Cassandra will finally uncover the truth about the family, and solve the century-old mystery of a little girl lost. *Due Jul*

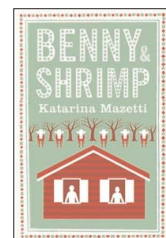


Benny and Shrimp

Katarina MAZETTI

224pp Tp \$29.95

Why is it so impossible to get a relationship to work between two mature single people, driven by an enormous longing and loudly ticking biological clocks? Especially when they are struck by a totally unexpected passion when they first meet. In alternate chapters, Benny and 'Shrimp' tell the story of a love that started by mistake in a village cemetery, a love that should not really be as complicated as it seems. She is a childless young widow with a sharp intellect and a home so tidy that even her jam jars are in alphabetical order. He is a gentle, overworked milk farmer, a reluctant loner, who fears becoming the village's Old Bachelor. The attraction between them is powerful. But how will she learn to accept that he falls asleep at the opera and has a house full of his mother's embroidered wall hangings, and how could he ever feel at home in her minimalist apartment, bare as a dentist's waiting room? Mazetti brilliantly captures the intensity of an unexpected love affair, and the heartbreaking inevitability with which life tends to get in the way.

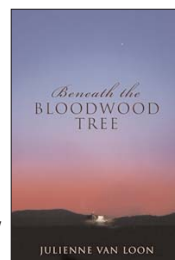


Beneath the Bloodwood Tree

Julienne VAN LOON

288pp Pb \$22.95

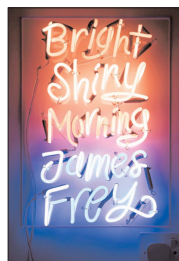
"Now she listens, perhaps unwisely, to a pricking beneath her skin. It's a sensation she hasn't felt since she was a child. There's some kind of presence in the air, something intangible." Pia Ricci has come to Port Headland to free her life of complications and distractions. But when Pia discovers a bundle of money and men's clothing buried on the outskirts of town, she has an uncomfortable feeling that things are about to change. Is it connected to the foreigner Joachim, a new arrival in town? Or to the ghosts in her own past? As Pia and Joachim grow closer, Pia can see he has secrets. The widow Barnes, one of Joachim's nursing charges, also holds secrets, and they're coming to the surface. As these three misfits come together, their world starts to change in ways they could never have expected. In this unsettling and powerful new novel *Vogel Award* winner Van Loon tightly weaves a tale of ghosts, death, love and dislocation.



Bright Shiny Morning

James FREY 528pp Tp \$33.00

Welcome to LA, city of contradictions. It is home to movie stars and down-and-outs. Palm-lined beaches and gridlock. Shopping sprees and gun sprees. Frey takes a wild ride through the ultimate metropolis, where glittering excess rubs shoulders with seedy depravity. His trademark filmic snapshots zoom in on the parallel lives of diverse characters, bringing their egos and ideals, hopes and despairs, anxieties and absurdities, vividly to life. Some suffer, like the otherworldly wino who tries to save a spoilt teenage runaway. Others gain, like the canny talent agent who turns sexual harassment to blackmailing advantage. Some are loaded, or grounded, and have luck on their side. Others, like the countless actresses-turned-hookers, or schoolboys-turned-gangsters, are doomed.



Attachment

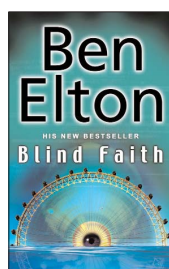
Isabel FONSECA Tp \$32.95

A bold fictional debut that takes the lid off marriage and looks into the head of a wife and mother coming face-to-face with betrayal, the empty nest, fading parents, men who don't grow up, sexual boredom and sexual excitement: the unpredictable fallout of ordinary life.

Blind Faith

Ben ELTON 368pp Pb \$21.95

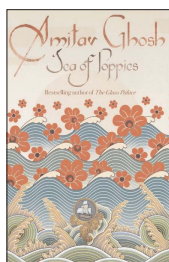
Imagine a world where everyone knows everything about everybody. Where what a person 'feels' and 'truly believes' is protected under the law, while what is rational, even provable, is condemned as heresy. A world where to question ignorance and intolerance is to commit a 'Crime against Faith'. Elton's dark, savagely comic novel imagines a post-apocalyptic society where religious intolerance combines with a confessional sex obsessed, self-centric culture to create a world where nakedness is modesty, ignorance is wisdom and privacy is a dangerous perversion. A chilling vision of what's to come? Or something closer to what we call reality?



Sea of Poppies

Amitav GHOSH 480pp Tp \$33.00

At the heart of this epic saga, set just before the Opium Wars, is an old slaving ship, The Ibis. Its destiny is a tumultuous voyage across the Indian Ocean, its crew a motley array of sailors and stowaways, coolies and convicts. In a time of colonial upheaval, fate has thrown together a truly diverse cast of Indians and Westerners, from a bankrupt Raja to a widowed villager, from an evangelical English opium trader to a mulatto American freedman. As their old family ties are washed away they, like their historical counterparts, come to view themselves as jahaj-bhais or ship-brothers. An unlikely dynasty is born, which will span continents, races and generations. The vast sweep of this historical adventure spans the lush poppy fields of the Ganges, the rolling high seas, and the exotic backstreets of China. But it is the panorama of characters, whose diaspora encapsulates the vexed colonial history of the East itself, which makes this novel so breathtakingly alive - a masterpiece from one of the world's finest novelists. *Due Jul*

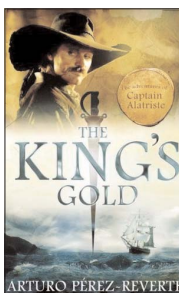


The King's Gold

Adventures of Captain Alatraste #4

Arturo PEREZ-REVERTE 256pp Tp \$33.00

The year is 1626 and a battle-weary Captain Alatraste and his companions sail home from the war in Flanders. He returns to a Spain that is rotten to the core as gold from the Americas floods into the port of Seville, brought by the country's infamous treasure fleet. As various factions within the Court vie for supremacy, certain interests are creaming off undeclared profits from the galleons' cargo, thus depriving the royal treasury of its lifeblood. Indeed some of the booty is finding its way into the hands of the same rebel provinces Spain is fighting to suppress. The King and his most trusted advisor, the Count-Duke Olivares, have become aware of one such plot and have decided to teach the perpetrator a lesson. Once more, they must call upon Captain Alatraste's blade in a dangerous adventure that will bring the captain face to face with his nemesis, and with a ruthless man who has designs on the throne.



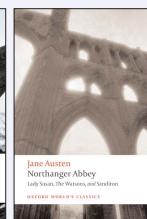
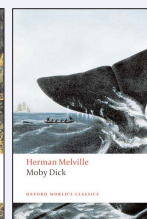
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Mrs Dalloway	Virginia Woolf	Pb \$14.95

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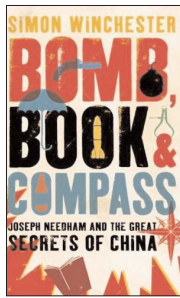
Winner announced in September Abbey's Advocate.

Bomb, Book and Compass

Joseph Needham and the Great Secrets of China

Simon WINCHESTER 256pp Tp \$32.95

Before fate intervened, Joseph Needham was a distinguished biochemist performing research at Cambridge University, married to a fellow scientist and an ardent member of the local Communist party. In 1937, he was asked to supervise a young Chinese student named Lu Gwei-Djen and so began the two greatest love affairs of his life - Lu and China. At Lu's insistence, he travelled to China and immersed himself in the country's history and culture. For the next 58 years, he established himself as the pre-eminent China scholar of all time, documenting everything from Chinese medicine to philosophy to nautical history, formulating the belief that China would one day achieve world prominence. By the end of his life, Needham had become a truly global figure, travelling endlessly and honoured by all, except the university where he worked. In 1989, after a 52-year affair, he finally married the woman who had first inspired his passion. This is Winchester at his best, at once a magnificent portrait of one man's remarkable and passionate life, and a riveting exploration of the country that so engaged him. *Due Jul*

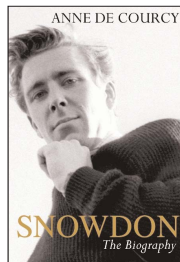


Snowdon

The Biography

Anne De COURCY 496pp Tp \$35.00

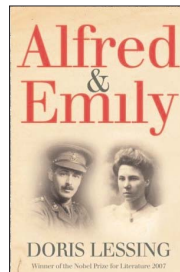
The engagement of this motorbike-riding freelance photographer in 1960 to Princess Margaret was a bombshell. Friends privately predicted disaster. And so it proved. But meanwhile in the 1960s, mixing with actors, artists and pop stars, they were the epitome of stylish and unstuffy, arts-loving Royals. Along with John and Jackie Kennedy, or Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton, they were one of the iconic glamorous couples of their era. Tony continued to work and both began to have affairs. They divorced in 1978, the first royal divorce since Henry VIII divorced Anne of Cleves in 1540. Snowdon married again, but this marriage collapsed after the birth of a secret love-child in 1998 and the suicide in 1996 of his mistress of 20 years, Anne Hill. This is the first complete and no-holds-barred biography of the man who married and divorced Princess Margaret. *Due Jul*



Alfred & Emily

Doris LESSING 288pp Pb \$28.00

"I think my father's rage at the trenches took me over, when I was very young, and has never left me. Do children feel their parents' emotions? Yes, we do, and it is a legacy I could have done without. What is the use of it? It is as if that old war is in my own memory, my own consciousness." In this extraordinary book, Lessing explores the lives of her parents, both of them irrevocably damaged by the Great War. Her father wanted the simple life of an English farmer, but shrapnel almost killed him in the trenches and thereafter he wore a wooden leg. Her mother Emily's great love was a doctor who drowned in the Channel, and she spent the war nursing the wounded in the Royal Free Hospital. In the fictional first half of the book, Lessing imagines the happier life her parents might have made for themselves had there been no war, a story that begins with them meeting at a village cricket match outside Colchester. This is followed by a piercing examination of their relationship as it actually was in the shadow of the Great War, the family's move to Africa and the impact of her parent's marriage on a young woman growing up in a strange land. *Due Jul*



Quiet, Please

Dispatches from a Public Librarian

Scott DOUGLAS 320pp Hb \$45.00

Set against the unlikely backdrop of a Californian public library, this is an unexpectedly raucous and illuminating memoir. For most of us, librarians are the quiet people behind the desk who, apart from the occasional "shush", vanish into the background. But Douglas, a contributor to the literary magazine McSweeney's, has a keen eye for the absurd and a with a Kesey-esque cast of characters he takes us where few readers have gone before.

Punctuated by his own highly subjective research into library history, from Andrew Carnegie's gilded age to today's Afghanistan, Douglas gives us a surprising and sometimes hilarious look at the lives that make up the social institution that is his library.

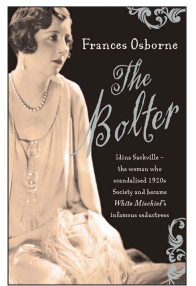


The Bolter

Frances OSBORNE

320pp Tp \$35.00

In the rarefied atmosphere of the impossibly wealthy and/or impeccably titled upper class of Edwardian Britain, Idina Sackville, daughter of the eighth Earl De La Warr and Muriel Brassey, an heiress to the largest fortune granted probate at that time, was noticeable. Although tainted by the scandal of her parents' divorce, she married the most eligible bachelor of the times, Euan Wallace, rich beyond belief. It was a love match, but that didn't stop either of them from taking lovers. The Great War drove a wedge between them and, faced with his serious infidelities, Idina bolted - she divorced him, left their sons in his care and ran off to Kenya with the man who became her second husband. Her third was the heir to the title of Earl of Errol (he later got murdered), the fourth a jealous big game hunter, the fifth a pilot. She divorced them all, created scandal with her uncounted lovers and the Happy Valley set, and lived life to the fullest. Written by Idina's great-granddaughter, who had access to family papers, this is at times a breathless account of an amazing woman, one determined to do what she wanted and society could go hang. Colourful to the extreme - and a ripping good read! *Lindy*



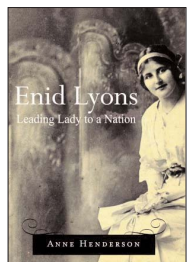
Enid Lyons

Leading Lady to a Nation

Anne HENDERSON

240pp Tp \$29.95

This is the story of an extraordinary woman - mother of 12, Premier's wife, Prime Minister's wife, a Dame, then a popular politician in her own right, Australia's first female cabinet minister, radio broadcaster, newspaper columnist, author of three books, ABC Commissioner. Born to a struggling but aspirational timber family in Tasmania, Enid was married at 17 to a man twice her age. This was the Irish Catholic Joe Lyons, a State Treasurer and Education Minister who would become a popular PM by leaving the ALP to lead the conservatives. Enid Lyons regarded herself as 'feminist', but was also conservative. She was a pacifist and a Fabian reformer underneath her conservative outlook on families and moral life. Enid could be strong on principle, but also surprisingly tolerant. The story of Joe and Enid Lyons is full of dramatic extremes and, through their intimate letters, a passionate love story is revealed.



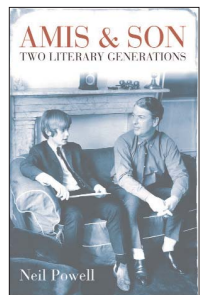
Amis and Son

Two Literary Generations

Neil POWELL

424pp Hb \$50.00

Kingsley and Martin Amis, two of the most successful British novelists of the last 50 years, are both known for their savage wit and indifference to causing controversy. In his critical biography, Powell looks at the careers of these two very divisive and hugely talented writers: how they were formed by their upbringings, developed as writers and how they affected literature and each other. He examines how 'success' (which is the title of one of Martin's novels) affected their relationship and themselves as writers, (Kingsley: "Martin's spending a year abroad for tax purposes. 29, he is. Little shit."). Through this we see what it has meant to be a man and a writer and, most importantly, a comic writer, in Britain over the last 60 years, following Kingsley from jazz-loving iconoclast to Thatcher-loving Tory, and Martin from wild young man of letters to brilliant novelist and social commentator. *Due Jul*



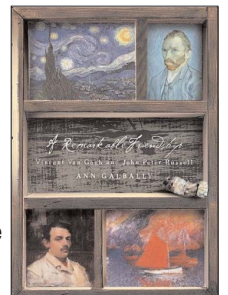
A Remarkable Friendship

Vincent Van Gogh and John Peter Russell

Ann GALBALLY

288pp Hb \$49.95

A huddle of wooden sheds in a courtyard off the Boulevard Montmartre known as Cormon's atelier was where the handsome art student from Sydney, John Peter Russell, first met the haunted, intense newcomer from Holland, Vincent van Gogh. Both were foreigners in the competitive art world of Paris in the 1880s and over the next two years both would discover a passion for colour painting. Now, for the first time, Galbally traces the passage of this extraordinary and unlikely friendship. The two spent hours together in a Paris studio experimenting with the fast-moving changes in art practice. Both artists ultimately rejected the Impressionist's world of urban sophistication and left Paris to develop colour painting in isolation. With a supporting cast including Gauguin, Rodin, Monet and Matisse, this is a journey through the struggles and failures, plots and intrigues of artistic life.



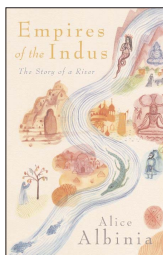
Empires of the Indus

The Story of a River

Alice ALBINA

384pp Tp \$40.00

One of the largest rivers in the world, the Indus rises in the Tibetan mountains, flows west across northern India and south through Pakistan. For millennia it has been worshipped as a god; for centuries used as a tool of imperial expansion; today it is the cement of Pakistan's fractious union. 5,000 years ago, a string of sophisticated cities grew and traded on its banks. In the ruins of these elaborate metropolises, Sanskrit-speaking nomads explored the river, extolling its virtues in India's most ancient text, the Rig-Veda. During the past 2,000 years, a series of invaders - Alexander the Great, Afghan Sultans, the British Raj - made conquering the Indus valley their quixotic mission. For the people of the river, meanwhile, the Indus valley became a nodal point on the Silk Road, a centre of Sufi pilgrimage and the birthplace of Sikhism. Albina follows the river upstream and back in time, taking the reader on a voyage through 2,000 miles of geography and more than five millennia of history redolent with contemporary importance. *Due Jul*



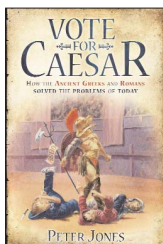
Vote for Caesar

How the Ancient Greeks and Romans Solved the Problems of Today

Peter JONES

272pp Hb \$30.00

The creation of bus-only lanes, prices going up on the train, bicycle lanes - all ideas brought about to try to make the traffic situation in our capital city run more smoothly. Surely there must be a better way? In fact there is. In Roman times, when the streets were even more crowded, Caesar decreed that all vehicles (except those involved in building work) were banned from the City, while Nero took advantage of a major fire to broaden the streets to improve access. Whatever the problem, from the leader whose deputy wants to replace him to the question of how to make democracy really work, you can guarantee that our Classical forebears faced the same situation and came up with some far more effective solutions than our current politicians. In this enthralling, informative and hugely entertaining book, Jones highlights just how much we have to learn from the past and how things really were once so much better. *Due Jul*



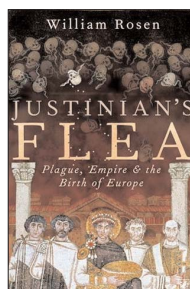
Justinian's Flea

Plague, Empire and the Birth of Europe

William ROSEN

384pp Pb \$39.95

In the middle of the 6th century, the world's smallest organism collided with the world's mightiest empire. The Roman Empire, under her last great emperor, Justinian, was decimated by the death of over 25 million people. Before Yersinia pestis (the bacterium that carries bubonic plague) was finished, both the Roman and Persian empires were easy pickings for the armies of Muhammad on their conquering march out of Arabia. In its wake, the plague - history's first pandemic - marked the transition from the age of Mediterranean empires to the age of European nation-states, from antiquity to the medieval world. This is the story of that collision, a narrative history that weaves together evolutionary microbiology, architecture, military history, geography, rat and flea ecology, jurisprudence, theology, epidemiology and the economics of the silk trade. *Due Jul*



How the Barbarian Invasions

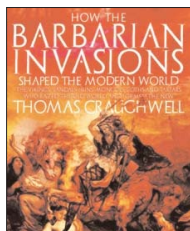
Shaped the Modern World

The Vikings, Vandals, Huns, Mogols, Goths and Tartars who Razed the Old World and Formed the New

Thomas CRAUGHWELL

384pp Tp \$35.00

More than 800 years have passed since the last barbarian horde slaughtered and plundered its way across Asia and Europe, yet civilised folks are still fascinated by tales of these half-naked, bloodthirsty savages. The impact they had on world history was truly astonishing: they destroyed the Roman Empire, founded the nations of Europe and united China into a world power. This narrative emphasises the dramatic and human element of this period in history - the terror of the barbarians' victims, as well as the almost insane pleasure the barbarians themselves took in fighting and pillaging. This highly readable, entertaining and authoritative book contains action-packed stories, little-known facts and information from the latest research on the barbarians and their importance in world history. *Due Jul*



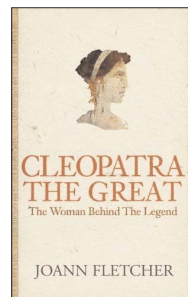
Cleopatra the Great

The Woman Behind the Legend

Joann FLETCHER

464pp Tp \$35.00

Cleopatra is a truly iconic figure: the last Egyptian Pharaoh and arguably the greatest. But she is also a mythical figure, mainly known through Shakespearean tragedy and Roman propaganda. Fletcher draws on a wealth of overlooked detail that reveals Cleopatra as she truly was: a brilliant politician, erudite scholar and mother of four children. Queen of Egypt at 17, she restored her country to its former glory and was the only Mediterranean ruler to resist the Romans for over 20 years, before her final defeat and suicide. The book brilliantly evokes Cleopatra's life from Alexandria to Rome and is full of tantalising details about her famous banquets, massive library, goddess outfits, beauty regimes and hairstyles. *Due Jul*



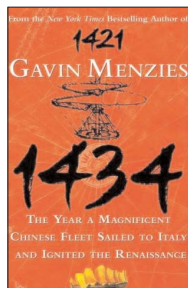
1434

The Year a Magnificent Chinese Fleet Sailed to Italy and Ignited the Renaissance

Gavin MENZIES

364pp Tp \$35.00

In his bestselling book **1421: The Year China Discovered the World** (Pb \$32.95), Menzies presented controversial and compelling evidence that Chinese fleets beat Columbus, Cook and Magellan to the New World. But his research has led him to astonishing new discoveries that Chinese influence on Western culture didn't stop there. Until now, scholars have considered that the Italian Renaissance - the basis of our modern Western world - came about as a result of a re-examining the ideas of classical Greece and Rome. Menzies makes the startling argument that a sophisticated Chinese delegation visited Italy in 1434, sparked the Renaissance and forever changed the course of Western civilisation. After that date, the authority of Aristotle and Ptolemy was overturned and artistic conventions were challenged, as was Arabic astronomy and cartography. Florence and Venice of the 15th century attracted traders from across the world. Menzies presents evidence that a large Chinese fleet - official ambassadors of the Emperor - arrived in Tuscany in 1434 to meet with Pope Eugenius IV in Florence. A mass of information was given by the Chinese delegation to the Pope and his entourage concerning world maps (which Menzies argues were later given to Columbus), astronomy, mathematics, art, printing, architecture, steel manufacture, civil engineering, military machines, surveying, cartography, genetics and more. *Due Jul*



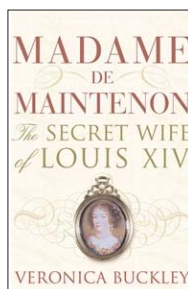
Madame de Maintenon

The Secret Wife of Louis XIV

Veronica BUCKLEY

352pp Hb \$59.95

Francoise d'Aubigne was born in a bleak provincial fortress in 1635, her father a condemned murderer and traitor. Yet during her lifetime she managed to make her way from desperate poverty, via the bountiful and treacherous Caribbean islands, to a brilliant salon life in Paris and the centre of power at Versailles. Married at 15 to 42-year-old Paul Scarron, tragically disfigured and scandalously popular poet of the burlesque, Francoise encountered in her husband's famous salon all the brilliant, beautiful, comic and tragic characters of the 17th century's glitterati. After his death, she led the life of a merry widow among her friends in the Marais quarter of Paris, before being chosen by the King's mistress, Athenais de Montespan, as governess for her growing brood of royal bastards. Leaving the pleasures of the Marais behind her, she began a new life at court, first at the genteel palace of Saint-Germain, then at the King's fabulous new folly of Versailles. This is the extraordinary story of her progress from governess to royal mistress and then, in secret, to the compromised position of Louis' uncrowned Queen.



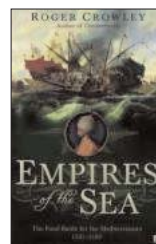
Empires of the Sea

The Final Battle for the Mediterranean

Roger CROWLEY

368pp Hb \$59.95

Crowley shows the Mediterranean as a majestic and bloody theatre of war. Opening with the Ottoman victory in 1453, this is a breathtaking story of military crusading, Barbary pirates, white slavery and the Ottoman Empire, as well as the larger picture of the struggle between Islam and Christianity. Coupled with dramatic set-piece battles, a wealth of riveting first-hand accounts, epic momentum and a terrific denouement at Lepanto, this is history at its broadest and most compelling. *Due Jul*



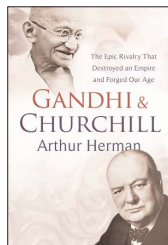
Gandhi & Churchill

The Epic Rivalry that Destroyed an Empire and Forged Our Age

Arthur HERMAN

736pp Pb \$39.95

Mohandas Gandhi and Winston Churchill: India's founder and Great Britain's greatest Prime Minister. Born five years and 7,000 miles apart, they became embodiments of the nations they led. Both became living icons, idolised and admired around the world. Today they remain enduring models of leadership in a democratic society. Yet the truth was Churchill and Gandhi were bitter enemies throughout their lives. This book reveals how that rivalry shaped the 20th century and beyond. For more than 40 years, from 1906 to 1948, Gandhi and Churchill were locked in a tense struggle for the hearts and minds of the British public, and of world opinion. Although they met only once, their titanic contest of wills would decide the fate of nations, continents, peoples and ultimately an Empire. *Due Jul*



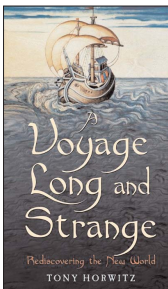
A Voyage Long and Strange

Rediscovering the New World

Tony HORWITZ

464pp Tp \$35.00

Long before the Pilgrims, other Europeans pioneered North America seeking land, converts and cities of gold. By exploring America's lost, or often repressed, heritage, Horwitz unmask the country's founding myths. The book opens with the Vikings in AD1000, but focuses on the neglected period in early American history between Columbus's voyage of 1492 and the Pilgrim's arrival in 1620. Horwitz recaptures the adventures of non-English explorers and the drama of the first contact with native peoples. He also sets out on his own journey of rediscovery, travelling in the explorers' wake to reveal the enduring influence that early Europeans had on America. Why, Horwitz asks, do we remember history the way we do? During his long and strange journey, from Indian sweat lodges to the crypt of Columbus, he exposes the revealing gap between what we enshrine and what we forget about our past. *Due Jul*



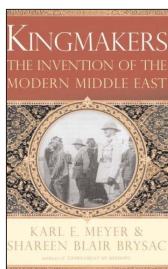
Kingmakers

The Invention of the Modern Middle East

Karl MEYER

480pp Hb \$37.95

A narrative history of the influence of Great Britain and the United States on the shaping of the modern Middle East cites the contributions of famous and controversial figures, from Lawrence of Arabia and Gertrude Bell to Miles Copeland and Paul Wolfowitz.



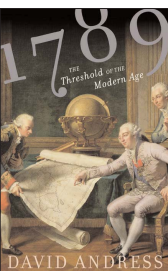
1789

The Threshold of the Modern Age

David ANDRESS

448pp Tp \$40.00

In 1789, the world stood at the threshold of the modern age. While the French Revolution and the election of George Washington seemed to herald a new global order, Britain stood shocked at the new world unfolding before her. Two documents were drafted that would change the very meanings of citizens and statehood: the US Bill of Rights and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen. The age of royal despotism had ended. But beneath this veneer of progress, darker forces were at work: the French Revolution spiralled out of control, American slavery expanded and the armed forces of the British Empire were unleashed in India. From 'mad' King George III to Thomas Paine, from Pitt the Younger to Robespierre, Andress illuminates a world on the brink through the men who held its future in their hands. *Due Jul*



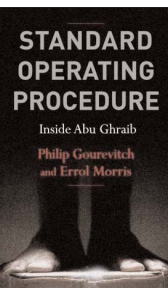
Standard Operating Procedure

Inside Abu Ghraib

Philip GOUREVITCH

368pp Tp \$33.00

This book reveals the stories of the American soldiers who took, and appeared in, the haunting digital snapshots from Abu Ghraib prison that shocked the world, illuminating and altering forever our understanding of those images and the events they depict. Drawing on more than 200 hours of Errol Morris's startlingly frank and intimate interviews with Americans who served at Abu Ghraib and with some of their Iraqi prisoners, Gourevitch has written a relentlessly surprising account of Iraq's occupation from the inside out, rendering vivid portraits of guards and prisoners ensnared in an appalling breakdown of command, authority and moral order. *Due Jul*



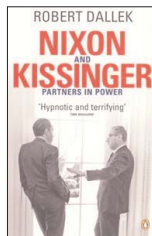
Nixon and Kissinger

Partners in Power

Robert DALLEK

720pp Pb \$29.95

They were perhaps the most powerful, ruthless, flawed and fascinating duo in modern times: President Nixon and his Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger. Both had risen from nothing to conquer the world stage, both were ambitious, manipulative, relentlessly driven and plagued by inner demons. And both mistrusted everyone around them, including each other. Tapping into a host of recently declassified documents, this is the most revealing account of an extraordinary partnership: their rivalry, plotting, insults and paranoia, their deals with power-breakers at home and abroad - from China to Chile, Vietnam to the Soviet Union - and their nemesis, Watergate. *Due Jul*



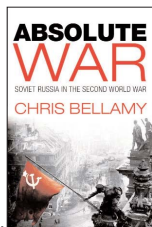
Absolute War

Soviet Russia in the Second World War

Chris BELLAMY

668pp Pb \$29.95

There have been many individual accounts of particular moments in the vicious war between the Nazi regime and the Soviet behemoth, but none that tell the full and dreadful story of that absolute war, where both sides aimed to "exterminate the opponent, to destroy his political existence", fought not simply by the armed forces but by civilians, men, women and children. Bellamy, Professor of Military Science at Cranfield University, is one of the world's leading experts on this subject. It benefits from his remarkable insight into strategic issues, as well as exhaustive research in hitherto unopened Russian archives. *Due Jul*



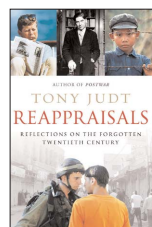
Reappraisals

Reflections on the Forgotten Twentieth Century

Tony JUDT

464pp Hb \$59.95

As Judt argues persuasively in this book, we have entered an "age of forgetting". Today's world is so utterly unlike the world of just 20 years ago that we have set aside our immediate past even before we could make sense of it. We literally don't know where we came from, and the results of this burgeoning ignorance are proving calamitous, with the clear prospect of worse to come. We have lost touch with three generations of international policy debate, social thought and public-spirited social activism. We no longer know how to discuss such concepts and we have forgotten the role once played by intellectuals in debating, transmitting and defending the ideas that shaped their time. Judt resurrects key aspects of the world we have lost and reminds us how important they still are to us: now and to our hopes for the future. *Due Jul*



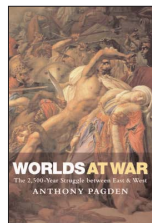
Worlds at War

The 2,500-Year Struggle Between East and West

Anthony PAGDEN

576pp Hb \$65.00

The differences that divide West from East go deeper than politics or religion, argues Pagden. To understand this volatile relationship and how it has played out over the centuries, we need to go back before the Crusades, before the birth of Islam, before the birth of Christianity, to the fifth century BCE. Europe was born out of Asia and for centuries the two shared a single history. But when the Persian emperor Xerxes tried to conquer Greece, a struggle began that has never ceased. First Alexander the Great and then the Romans tried to unite Europe and Asia into a single civilisation. With the conversion of the West to Christianity and much of the East to Islam, a bitter war broke out between two universal religions, each claiming world dominance. By the 17th century, with the decline of the Church, the contest had shifted from religion to philosophy: the West's scientific rationality in contrast to those who sought ultimate guidance in the words of God. The 18th and 19th centuries witnessed the disintegration of the great Muslim empires - the Ottoman, the Mughal and the Safavid in Iran - and the increasing Western domination of the whole of Asia. The wars between East and West have been the longest and most costly in human history and have also formed the West's vision of itself as independent, free, secular and now democratic. They have shaped, and continue to shape, the nature of the modern world.



Great Migrations

From the Earliest Humans to the Age of Globalisation

John HAYWOOD

256pp Hb \$45.00

Haywood brings together 50 epic accounts of the mass movement of peoples. Each account not only describes the migration itself, but also examines in detail its causes and its short and long-term consequences. The book tells a multitude of stories - those of the discovery of new worlds, flight from persecution, nation-building, colonisation and human courage and resourcefulness. *Due Jul*

History

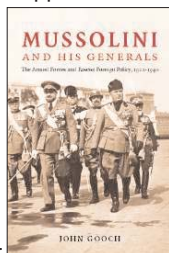
Mussolini and his Generals

The Armed Forces and Fascist Foreign Policy, 1922-1940

John GOOCH

666pp Hb \$59.95

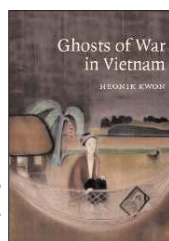
This is the first authoritative study of the Italian armed forces and the relationship between the military and foreign policies of Fascist Italy from Mussolini's rise to power in 1922 to the catastrophic defeat of 1940. Using extensive new research, Gooch explores the nature and development of the three armed forces, their relationships with Mussolini and the impact of his policies and command, the development of operational and strategic thought, and the deployment and use of force in Libya, Abyssinia and Spain. He emphasises Mussolini's long-term expansionist goals and explains how he responded to the structural pressures of the international system and the contingent pressures of events. This compelling account shows that while Mussolini bore ultimate responsibility for Italy's fateful entry into WWII, his generals and admirals bore a share of the blame for defeat through policies that all too often rested on irrationality and incompetence.



Ghosts of War in Vietnam

Heonik KWON 232pp Hb \$49.95

This is a fascinating and truly groundbreaking study of the Vietnamese experience and memory of the Vietnam War through the lens of popular imaginings about the wandering souls of the war dead. These ghosts of war play an important part in post-war Vietnamese historical narrative and imagination and Kwon explores the intimate ritual ties with these unsettled identities that still survive in Vietnam today, as well as the actions of those who hope to liberate these hidden but vital historical presences from their uprooted social existence. Taking a unique approach to the cultural history of war, he introduces gripping stories about spirits claiming social justice and about his own efforts to wrestle with the physical and spiritual presence of ghosts. Although these actions are fantastical, this book shows how examining their stories can illuminate critical issues of war and collective memory in Vietnam and the modern world more generally.

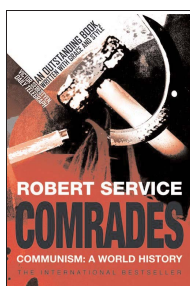


Comrades

Communism: A World History

Robert SERVICE 624pp Pb \$30.00

Almost two decades have passed since the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the USSR. Service, one of the finest historians of modern Russia, sets out to examine the history of communism throughout the world. His uncomfortable conclusion, and an important message for the 21st century, is that although communism in its original form is now dead or dying, the poverty and injustice that enabled its rise are still dangerously alive. Unsettling, compellingly written and brilliantly argued, this is a superb work of history and one that demands to be read. *Due Jul*

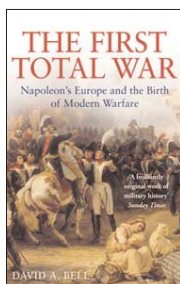


The First Total War

Napoleon's Europe and the Birth of Modern Warfare

David BELL Pb \$29.95

In this tour de force of interpretative history, Bell explains that Napoleon's was the first "total" war in European history, when warfare was transformed into the hideous spectacle that seems ever present today. With a historian's sharp eye for detail, Bell resurrects Napoleonic Europe and brings a new perspective to a period we thought we knew. *Due Jul*



Australian History

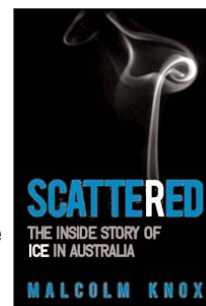
Scattered

The Inside Story of Ice in Australia

Malcolm KNOX

304pp Tp \$32.95

Crystal methamphetamine. Crystal meth. Crystal. Ice. A drug that came out of nowhere and instantly turned things upside down: for users, their families, police, healthcare workers and victims of the random, hyper-violent crimes that are the mark of ice. Within a decade of its appearance in Australia, there are over 73,000 ice addicts, double the number of heroin addicts. 'Scattered' is the word coined by some users to describe the trance-like confusion that accompanies an ice binge, which often leads to paranoia, hallucinations and the capacity for sudden ferocity that can escalate common crime to a terrifying level of violence. Walkley Award-winning journalist Knox tells the story of ice in Australia, offering stories of use, addiction, crime and violence, going beyond the statistics and sensational headlines to reveal the human cost of ice and its future in Australia. *Due Jul*



Trafficked

Kathleen MALTZAHN

128pp Pb \$19.95

Maltzahn tells the story of a rare human rights campaign that succeeded in changing government policy to protect women smuggled into Australia each year to work in the sex trade. In 2003, the Coronial Inquiry into the 2001 death of Puongtong Simaplees at Villawood Detention Centre put the issue of trafficking for prostitution in Australia on the national agenda for the first time. This book contains first-person accounts of women like Puongtang, stories that inspired women's groups to make sure trafficked women could no longer be ignored. *Due Jul*



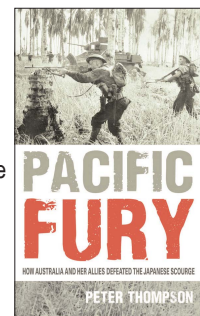
Pacific Fury

How Australia and Her Allies Defeated the Japanese Scourge

Peter THOMPSON

Hb \$54.95

Pearl Harbour, the Fall of Singapore, the Bombing of Darwin, POW Camps, the Battle of Midway, Kokoda, Kamikaze Pilots, Hiroshima. These words alone are enough to convey the terror, courage and drama of the Pacific War, when the balance of power stood on a knife-edge and when the future of Australia was on the brink, threatened by Japanese aggression on the one hand and British deception on the other. After a conflict that took an unimaginable number of lives and ended with the unleashing of the most powerful weapon the world had ever seen, the Allies emerged victorious. But Australia was criticised by Churchill and his generals for showing cowardice in the face of the enemy and for not caring about the fate of other nations. The endorsement of these claims by several military historians today shows that the smear has not gone away. Until now. Thompson presents, for the first time, an account of the conflict that places Australian voices and action at the heart of the struggle. Based on exclusive interviews with eyewitnesses and written with the pace and verve of a master storyteller, this book brings the people and battles to life in a sensational history not to be bettered in a generation. *Due Jul*



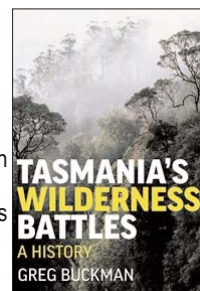
Tasmania's Wilderness Battles

A History

Greg BUCKMANN

288pp Pb \$29.95

Tasmania is famous for its old-growth forests, untamed rivers and rugged mountain peaks, but the struggle to preserve these wild places has been long and hard. Buckman recounts the bitter wars that have raged between conservationists and proponents of hydro-electricity, mining and forestry development in Tasmania's wilderness. He documents some of Australia's most fiercely fought environmental campaigns, including the battles to save Lake Pedder and the Franklin River, the violent confrontations at Farmhouse Creek, and the high-profile conflict over the Gunn's proposed pulp mill in the Tamar Valley. Providing a compelling insight into how big business and government operate in Tasmania, this book examines the issues, influences and tactics that have underpinned the island state's wilderness campaigns and reveals the deep mistrust that divides its people. Buckman presents a powerful argument for why these battles must be won.



Pitcairn

Paradise Lost

Kathy MARKS

320pp Tp \$33.00

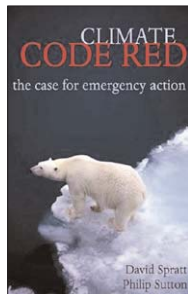
Pitcairn Island, remote and wild, home to descendants of the Bounty, a South Pacific Shangri-la, shrouded in myth... But also, as the world would discover, a place of sinister secrets. In 2000, police descended on the British colony to investigate disturbing reports of rape. What they discovered was a shocking trail of child abuse dating back generations. Scarcely a man was untainted by the allegations and barely a girl had escaped, yet most residents feigned ignorance or claimed it was their 'way of life'. The ensuing trials would tear the tiny community of just 47 people apart, pitting neighbour against neighbour and reopening old wounds. One of only six journalists to gain access to the island, Kathy Marks lived on Pitcairn during the trials, then followed the legal and human saga to its conclusion in 2007. In this riveting account, she uncovers a society gone badly astray, leaving lives shattered and codes broken... a paradise truly lost.

Climate Code Red

The Case for Emergency Action

David SPRATT & Philip SUTTON 256pp Pb \$27.95

This meticulously documented call-to-action reveals extensive scientific evidence that the global warming crisis is far worse than official reports and national governments have indicated, and that we're almost at the point of no return. According to climate scientists such as James Hansen, it is no longer a case of how much more we can 'safely' emit, but whether we can quickly enough stop emissions and produce a deliberate cooling before the earth's climate system reaches a runaway trajectory that is beyond any hope of human restoration. These imperatives are incompatible with 'politics as usual' and 'business as usual'. The authors argue there is an urgent need for all of us to recognise that we face a sustainability emergency that requires a clear break from the politics of failure-inducing compromise. The case for emergency action is not so much a radical idea as an indispensable course we must embark upon if we are to return to a safe-climate planet. *Due Jul*

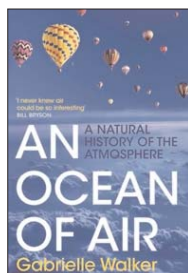


An Ocean of Air

A Natural History of the Atmosphere

Gabrielle WALKER 288pp Pb \$26.95

We not only live in the air, we live because of it. At ground level, air transforms miraculously; it wraps our planet in a blanket of warmth, while the outer layer of our atmosphere soaks up violent flares from the sun. In this fascinating celebration of the Earth's fragile atmosphere, Walker traces a journey of groundbreaking scientific discovery from the first experiments in the Renaissance to recent findings in space. *Due Jul*



Fixing Climate

The Story of Climate Science - and How to Stop Global Warming

Robert KUNZIG & Wallace BROECKER

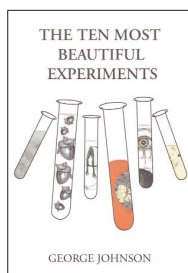
256pp Tp \$29.95

This book looks back at Earth's volatile climate history so as to shed light on the challenges ahead. Ice ages, planetary orbits, a giant 'conveyor belt' in the ocean - it's a riveting story full of maverick thinkers, extraordinary discoveries and an urgent blueprint for action. Liking climate to a slumbering beast, ready to react to the smallest of prods, the authors show how assiduously we've been prodding it by pumping 70 million tonnes of carbon dioxide into the air each year. They explain why we need not just to reduce emissions, but start removing our carbon waste from our atmosphere. *Due Jul*

The Ten Most Beautiful Experiments

George JOHNSON 208pp Hb \$49.95

From the universally praised New York Times science writer comes an irresistible book on the 10 most fascinating experiments in the history of science, moments when a curious soul posed a particularly eloquent question to nature and received a crisp, unambiguous reply. Among these are: Galileo - The Way Things Really Move; William Harvey - Mysteries of the Heart; Isaac Newton - What a Colour Is; Luigi Galvani - Animal Electricity; Michel Faraday - Something Deeply Hidden; James Joule - How the World Works; and Ivan Pavlov - Measuring the Immeasurable. The diligence of all these scientists was rewarded: in an instant, confusion was swept aside and something new about nature leapt into view. *Due Jul*



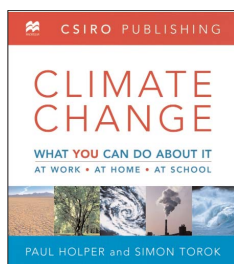
Climate Change

What You Can Do About It

Paul HOLPER & Simon TOROK

216pp Pb \$29.95

We can all make a difference in lessening the severity and impact of climate change. Written by two leading science communicators in the field of climate change, this book takes you through the simple yet effective things you can do in your home, workplace, school and elsewhere to limit your carbon emissions. It also shows us what business, government and industry can do, giving us the knowledge to create change right across our society. Easy to read and highly accessible, yet full of the latest research and up-to-the-moment science, this book needs to be in every Australian home, workplace and classroom.



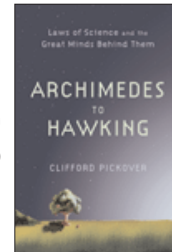
Archimedes to Hawking

Laws of Science and the Great Minds Behind Them

Clifford PICKOVER

528pp Hb \$55.00

Because the laws of nature provide a framework in which to explore the nature of reality and because laws allow scientists to make predictions about the universe, the discoveries of the laws are among humanity's greatest poetic achievements. Written in an original and clear manner, this is a compendium of biographical sketches of all our significant scientific laws and their discoverers. Each main entry comes in two parts: the eponymous law of nature (with formula) and an explanation for a broad audience followed by a biography of the scientist after whom the law is named. *Due Jul*



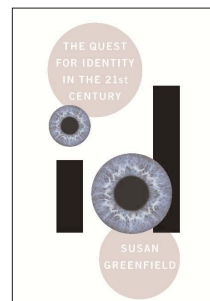
ID

The Quest for Identity in the Twenty First Century

Susan GREENFIELD

320pp Tp \$35.00

Our individuality is under attack as never before. Two huge new forces - technological advances and the rise in fundamentalism - are in their different ways combining to threaten our control of our minds and so the whole way our society functions. We have never more urgently needed to look at what we want for ourselves as individuals - for our children and our future society. This book draws on the latest findings in neuroscience to show how far we are (and can be) in control of the development of our brains and minds, and the actions we need to take to safeguard our individuality and find the fulfilment that our current unfettered materialism cannot provide. All this inevitably poses many questions about human nature, our past, what makes us individual, the connection between the brain and the mind, and what a society of fulfilled individuals would actually mean, all of which this book attempts to answer. *Due Jul*



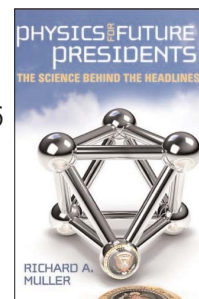
Physics for Future Presidents

The Science Behind the Headlines

Richard MULLER

224pp Hb \$34.95

An analysis of the science behind today's current events uses non-technical language to counsel today's voters on such topics as Iran's nascent nuclear capabilities, the potential for terrorists to develop biochemical weapons, and the possibility of developing viable alternatives to fossil fuels. *Due Jul*



Flower Hunters

Mary & John GRIBBIN

352pp Hb \$55.00

The flower hunters were intrepid explorers - remarkable, eccentric men and women who scoured the world in search of extraordinary plants, and helped establish the new science of botany. For these adventurers the search for new, undiscovered plant specimens was something worth risking, and often losing, their lives for. Many of the plants that are now so familiar to us were found in wild and unexplored country, in the face of hunger, disease, and hostile locals. It was specimens like these, smuggled home by the flower hunters, which helped build the great botanical collections and our understanding of the natural world. Here, the adventures of 11 explorers are told, describing their extraordinary daring and dedication, and the lasting impact of their discoveries.



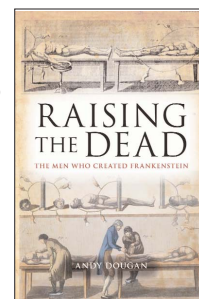
Raising the Dead

The Men Who Created Frankenstein

Andy DOUGAN

256pp Hb \$29.95

Mary Shelley's 1818 novel, *Frankenstein* (Pb \$12.95), introduced readers around the world to the concept of raising the dead through scientific procedures. Those who read the book were thrilled by this incredible Gothic adventure. Few, however, realised that Shelley's story had a basis in fact. What she imagined as her modern Prometheus was the serious pursuit of some of the greatest minds of the early 19th century. It was a time when scientists genuinely believed, as Frankenstein did, that they could know what it feels like to be God. Dougan looks at the sensational and compelling period of scientific research which may appear to us now to be a scientific curiosity, but actually made a significant difference to the lives we live today.

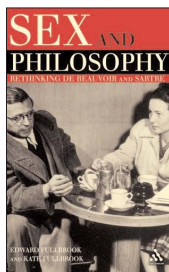


Sex and Philosophy

Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir

Edward & Kate FULLBROOK 288pp Pb \$39.95

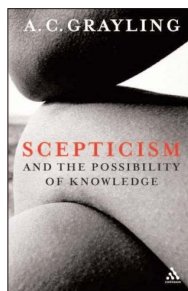
Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir were two of the most brilliant, influential and scandalous intellectuals of the 20th century. They are remembered as much for the lives they led as for their influence on the way we think. Their committed, but notoriously open, union created huge controversy in their lifetime. And even before their deaths they had become one of history's legendary couples, renowned for the passion, daring, humour and intellectual intensity of their relationship. This fascinating book presents a biography of their relationship and offers some highly original theories relating to the extent of de Beauvoir's contribution to their shared ideas. The authors contend that it was de Beauvoir's demand for sexual freedom that dictated the open terms of their relationship and that it was in fact de Beauvoir who was the more powerful thinker of the two. Through a thorough examination of their major works, the authors present a compelling story of their romantic and intellectual relationships.



Scepticism and the Possibility of Knowledge

A C GRAYLING 208pp Hb \$49.95

The subject of Scepticism is one of particular interest to people today. It is well known that Grayling reserves particular scepticism for religious statements, but that is only part of this compelling new book. Scepticism as a philosophical term is as old as the Greeks, but has more recently been advanced by Montaigne, Descartes and Hume. To these, what little we know that seems certain is based on observation and habit, as opposed to any logical or scientific necessity. Thus, sceptical views relate directly to epistemology - the theory of knowledge and what we can know - and, in the modern turbulent world, it is Grayling's contention that these are issues that all contemporary people need to focus on. In seeking understanding of the human condition, we need more than just a set of beliefs about it: all belief is irrational. We want to know or garner some kind of proof about the fundamental truths of human existence. *Due Jul*

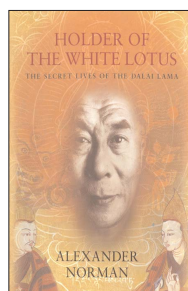


Holder of the White Lotus

The Secret Lives of the Dalai Lama

Alexander NORMAN 352pp Hb \$65.00

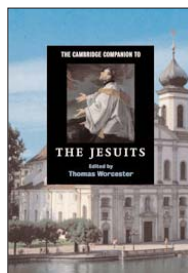
His Holiness the Dalai Lama is renowned the world over for an unswerving dedication to non-violence in his efforts to achieve justice for Tibet. In the 20 years he has known and worked with him, Norman has seen at first hand this extraordinary man's courage, compassion and honesty. But the current Dalai Lama is 14th in a lineage whose history is every bit as bloody and intrigue-laden as that of the Papacy. The 'first' Dalai Lama was in fact the third; the second described himself as 'a mad beggar monk'; the fourth was not Tibetan at all but a direct descendant of Genghis Khan. The sixth was a notorious womaniser, while four successive Dalai Lamas were almost certainly murdered. The present Dalai Lama has himself been the target of attacks that resulted in the brutal murder of a close colleague. He readily admits that Tibet never was Shangri La. Norman gives a fast-paced and absorbing insight into the real story of Tibetan culture, politics and spirituality. *Due Jul*



The Cambridge Companion to the Jesuits

Thomas WORCESTER (Ed) 374pp Hb \$49.95

Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556) obtained papal approval in 1540 for a new international religious order called the Society of Jesus. Until the mid-1700s, the 'Jesuits' were active in many parts of Europe and far beyond. Gaining both friends and enemies in response to their work as teachers, scholars, writers, preachers, missionaries and spiritual directors, the Jesuits were formally suppressed by Pope Clement XIV in 1773 and restored by Pope Pius VII in 1814. The Society of Jesus then grew until the 1960s; it has more recently experienced declining membership in Europe and North America, but expansion in other parts of the world. This Companion examines the religious and cultural significance of the Jesuits. The first four sections treat the period prior to the Suppression, while section five examines the Suppression and some of the challenges and opportunities of the restored Society of Jesus up to the present.

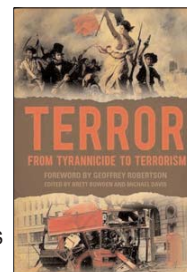


Terror

From Tyrannicide to Terrorism

Brett BOWDEN & Michael DAVIS 408pp Pb \$45.00

The issues of terror and terrorism confront us every day: every time we board a flight, pick up a newspaper or watch TV. Concerns about terrorism now dictate domestic and foreign policies around the world. But what is terror? How is it described, measured and experienced? Is the current terrorist threat unprecedented? The answers to many of these questions and the lessons therein are to be found in history; and nowhere more so than in Europe. In fact, Europe has been home to some of the most terrifying and horrific events in recorded human history. This collection takes a broad-ranging yet detailed look at the landmark events and epochs of terror across Europe, from the Gunpowder Plot of 1605 to the terrorist bombings on the London Underground in July 2005. Drawing on leading authorities from across the globe, this volume explores the historical mutation of political violence and concepts of terror.

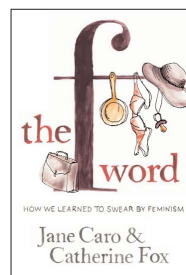


The F Word

How We Learned to Swear by Feminism

Jane CARO & Catherine FOX 256pp Pb \$29.95

When it comes to the work/life balance, modern women continually find themselves in a no-win situation where they are criticised regardless of the path they choose. The authors argue that the pervasive idea that women will never be able to effectively combine work or interests outside the home with marriage, a social life and parenting is a furphy. They combine both personal experience and the stories of a range of women with the big picture, providing practical suggestions for forgiving ourselves, having fun and not giving up while holding it all together.

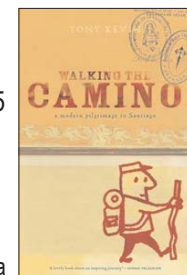


Walking the Camino

A Modern Pilgrimage to Santiago

Tony KEVIN 320pp Pb \$24.95

In May 2006, armed only with a small rucksack and a staff, Kevin, an overweight, sedentary, 63-year-old former diplomat, set off on an eight-week trek across Spain. But this was not just a very long walk; it was a pilgrimage. From Granada, in the southeast, to Santiago de Compostela, in the far northwest, he followed the Via Mozarabe and the Via de la Plata, two of the many pilgrim trails that crisscross Spain and Portugal and all lead to a single destination. In the Middle Ages, the cathedral city of Santiago de Compostela was Europe's most famous centre of pilgrimage. In recent years it has enjoyed a remarkable revival; every day towards noon, hundreds of hot, tired and dusty pilgrims stream into Santiago Cathedral for the daily Pilgrim's Mass. What, in our busy, materialistic 21st century, is this apparently anachronistic phenomenon all about? What drives tens of thousands of people of all nationalities and creeds to make long, exhausting walks across the cold mountains and hot tablelands of Spain to take part finally in a medieval Christian liturgy of spiritual renewal and reconciliation with God? This book beautifully captures the flavour of what it was like to walk the Camino and is filled with fascinating observations and anecdotes about the nature of contemporary Spain. *Due Jul*

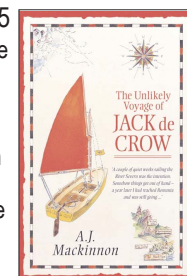


The Unlikely Voyage of Jack de Crow

A Mirror Odyssey from North Wales to the Black Sea

A J MACKINNON 448pp Pb \$32.95

A couple of quiet weeks' sailing on the River Severn was the intention. "Somehow things got out of hand," writes Mackinnon. "A year later, I had reached Romania and was still going." Equipped with his cheerful optimism and a pith helmet, this Australian Odysseus in a dinghy takes you with him from the borders of North Wales to the Black Sea - 4,900 kilometres over salt and fresh water, under sail, at the oars or at the end of a tow-rope - through 12 countries, 282 locks and numerous trials and adventures, including an encounter with Balkan pirates. An epic voyage, undertaken with courage, and recounted with flair and humour. *Due Jul*



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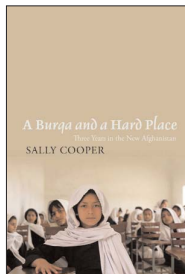
If you are after one of the fine titles from Cambridge University Press, please ask us first. We stock virtually all titles held by Cambridge in Australia, plus a few more!

A Burqa and a Hard Place

Three Years in the New Afghanistan

Sally COOPER 320pp Tp \$32.95

Burqas, car bombs and Bombay Sapphire - welcome to life in post-Taliban Kabul from the viewpoint of Sally Cooper, an Australian journalist and aid worker who took a job training journalists for a UN humanitarian news agency. When she arrived in Afghanistan, she knew next to nothing about the country. Once in Kabul, she moved into the Karwan Sara guesthouse and quickly met a cast of characters who drew her into the strange realities of life in 'the Ghan'. Some of the many questions posed include: What do you do when you discover your male hotel cleaner wearing your clothes? How do you blend into the background at a Friday night dog fight when you're the only woman there, and you're a blonde Westerner? Under what circumstances do you decide that wearing a burqa is for your own protection? How do you live and work in a place where the car next to yours at the traffic lights could be driven by a suicide bomber? Irreverent, action-packed, witty and at times wildly surreal, this tells you more about life in Afghanistan than anything you'll ever see on the nightly news.



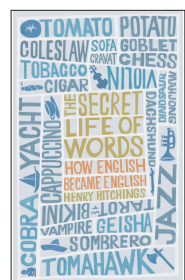
The Secret Life of Words

How English Became English

Henry HITCHINGS 432pp Hb \$55.00

Communication is essential to our lives, but how often do we stop to think about where the words we use have come from? Have you ever thought about which words in English have been borrowed from Arabic, French or Dutch? Try admiral, landscape and marmalade, just for starters. This is a wide-ranging account not only of the history of English, but also of how words witness history, reflect social change and remind us of our turbulent past.

Hitchings delves into our promiscuous language and reveals how and why it has absorbed words from more than 350 other languages, many originating from the most unlikely of places, such as shampoo from Hindi and kiosk from Turkish. From the Norman Conquest to the present day, he narrates the story of English as an archive of our human experience and uncovers the secrets behind everyday words. This is a celebration of our language; after reading it, you will never again take the words we use for granted.



QI

The Pocket Book of General Ignorance

John LLOYD & John MITCHINSON 304pp Pb \$19.95

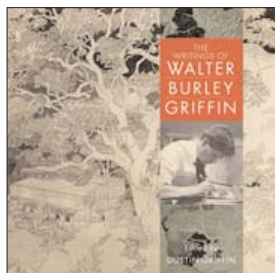
How much do we really know about anything? It's a question that has obsessed philosophers, scientists and men in pubs for most of human history. Thomas Edison thought we knew less than one millionth of a percent about anything; Mark Twain thought it would take eight million years to master mathematics alone; Ambrose Bierce believed knowledge was just the small bit of ignorance we arrange and classify. This book sets out, calmly and humbly, to show you that a lot of what you think you know is wrong, incorrect, piffle or nonsense. If, like Alan Davies, you still think that Henry VIII had six wives, the earth has only one moon, that George Washington was the first president of the US, that Bangkok is the capital of Thailand, that the largest living thing is a blue whale, that Alexander Graeme Bell invented the telephone, that whisky and bagpipes come from Scotland, or that Mount Everest is the world's tallest mountain, then this book is for you. *Due Jul*

The Writings of Walter Burley Griffin

Dustin GRIFFIN 512pp Hb \$199.00

Walter Burley Griffin (1876-1937) was a distinguished modernist American architect, landscape architect and town planner. His work attracted world-wide attention in 1912 when he won the international competition to design a new capital city for Australia. Griffin was also a prolific lecturer and writer. Here his 71 pieces of writing have been thematically categorised under 10 headings to reflect the variety and interrelations of his professional interests:

Canberra; Town and Campus Planning; Residential Communities; Designing the House; Building the House; Landscape Architecture; Public Buildings; India; Architecture and Politics and the Future of Architecture. At a time when Griffin's design for Canberra has attracted renewed attention, this canon of his work provides unparalleled access to his thinking about architecture and town planning.

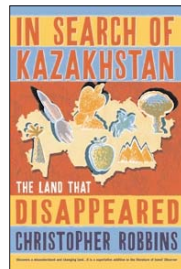


In Search of Kazakhstan

The Land that Disappeared

Christopher ROBBINS 288pp Pb \$24.95

The only thing most people know about Kazakhstan is that it is homeland to Borat - and he isn't even real. Actually this vast place - the last unknown inhabited country in the world - is far more surprising and entertaining. For one thing, it is as varied as Europe, combining stupendous wealth, grinding poverty, exotic traditions and a mad dash for modernity. Crisscrossing a vanished land, Robbins finds Eminem by a shrinking Aral Sea, goes eagle hunting, visits the scene of Dostoyevsky's doomed first love, takes up residence beside one-time neighbour Leon Trotsky and visits some of the most beautiful, unspoilt places on earth.

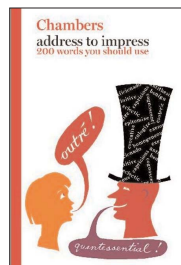


Address to Impress

Two Hundred Words You Should Use

CHAMBERS 208pp Pb \$20.00

Ever heard a word you wish you could use? The words featured here are common enough to be generally understood, but difficult enough to be misused or neglected. This book explains the precise meaning of each and shows the appropriate context in which to use them, thus helping you express yourself more clearly and impressively. Each entry gives a clear and precise definition supplemented with quotes from popular newspapers, magazines, news programmes and other reputable sources that place the word in context. Pronunciation is spelled out syllable-by-syllable using the standard alphabet, rather than phonetic symbols, and easily confusable words are flagged to prevent misuse. Whether you are giving a presentation, writing a report or simply wanting to improve your vocabulary, this will help you express yourself more clearly and effectively. *Due Jul*



Children's

reviewed by Lindy Jones

Rhyming Boy

Steven HERRICK 160pp Pb \$16.95

After many novels in verse form, this is Herrick's first in prose. Jayden is named for his Mum's favourite footballer... which wouldn't be so bad except that his surname is Hayden! He doesn't like sport, loves humungous words and similes (of which his Mum is the queen of mangling) and knows everyone in his street. He has never known who his father is and when a new girl at school becomes his firm friend, they decide to find out. A lovely book which delights in words, but never in an ostentatious or off-putting manner, and in the everyday relationships a 12-year-old boy experiences.



The Eyes of a King

Catherine BANNER 432pp Pb \$19.95

Leo, 15, lives with his grandmother and younger brother Stirling. He goes to military school - the only sort open under the dictatorship of self-proclaimed King Lucien, whose faction assassinated the rightful king 10 years previously. The heir to the throne was whisked out of Malonia to England, which has a mythical status. Leo finds a blank book that starts to tell the story of two young people, interspersed with details from his own family history - what is the link? As his own life spirals into frustration and grief, his actions have far-reaching consequences. At times this story was overlong on description, but at others I found it most absorbing and a very interesting story. Looks like the start of a trilogy, but ends neatly. 12+



The Stone Crown

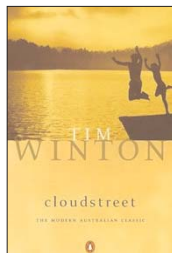
Malcolm WALKER 512pp Pb \$19.95

Emlyn is living with his half-sister in a small Scottish town while his mother is working elsewhere. Lonely and unsettled, he is gradually drawn towards another odd teenager, Max (never Maxine), who has problems of her own. When he sees her knock down a section of old stone wall, he sees a strange apparition - a rough warrior on horseback. The wall, it turns out, keeps back the guard of Arthur, and if they are released, there will be no safety in the world. Haunted by dreams and visions, and trying to persuade Max to help, Emlyn is pulled deeper into a world beyond his understanding. Interspersed between the contemporary narrative is the tale of Ceï, Arthur's main bodyguard, who tells how the young tribesman was singled out by the druid Merlin for greater things - and the downfall of all they had worked for. An interesting and fast-paced story.

I was not always a Tim Winton fan, mainly because I don't enjoy reading dialogue, but I greatly enjoyed his latest book **Breath** (\$45 Hb 216pp). It's difficult to tell you what the latest story is about without giving away the dramatic finish. Suffice to say that this is a well-constructed story with beautiful clear writing, tender and sympathetic. The descriptions of surfing and swimming are remarkable. Highly recommended.

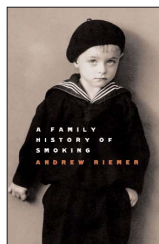
I then felt inspired to read **Cloudstreet** (\$26.95 Pb 426pp). Everyone else seemed to have read it except me! And now I find I was really missing out.

Cloudstreet is a wonderful, mysterious, sprawling masterpiece. It's a long time since I had a book which I simply couldn't put down and this is one. Two poor families, both having suffered catastrophes, share a big old house near the river in Perth. One is a gambling and drinking no-hope lot, the other works hard, hard, hard and tries to be good. The writing is superb. These characters acquire a dignity they hardly knew they had, and I became fond of them all. It is for sure a modern classic and I regret not reading it before.

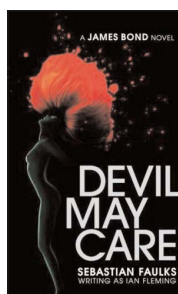


Another, not unexpected, pleasure was Helen Garner's latest, which is called a novel. This is **The Spare Room** (\$29.95 Hb 195pp). At first I felt anxious to read a book about a dying friend who comes to stay, but when I read it - in one fell swoop - I admired every word. And the production of the book is in every way worthy of the contents. A lovely book. A book about dying which is full of life.

Another pleasure was to read Andrew Riemer's latest book, **A Family History of Smoking** (\$32.95 Pb 217pp). He also writes with passion about his (past) pleasure - of smoking! In this memoir, he writes about a family which hardly felt itself to be Jewish, but rather members of the cosmopolitan Austro-Hungarian Empire. His mother was an avid smoker, his father not at all. His descriptions of the lifestyles of his parents and grandparents are touching and revealing. As he personally can't always remember details of the events in Europe, this very literary author resorts to quoting other authors, such as Zweig, Hasek, Roth, Mann and Schnitzler - always to good effect. Again recommended. Later, when shelving in World History, I found a book which Andrew should perhaps not be given (bearing in mind his heartfelt description of the pleasures of smoking). It was **La Diva Nicotina: The Story of How Tobacco Seduced the World** (\$22.95 Pb 403pp incl index). We've sold 145 copies of this, so it is a quiet bestseller. No wonder. It is full of fascinating memories and information.

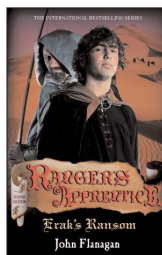


I've just read a brilliant, if bleak, and sometimes funny book by a writer I much admire. Sebastian Faulks is the author of **Engleby** (\$24.95 Pb 342pp), which begins with a clever, cynical, working-class boy arriving to study at Cambridge, but turns not only into a murder story, but also an intellectual analysis of modern life. No nice descriptions of landscape here, but much detail of events and reflections on the outcome. Faulks is the author of the famous French trilogy, **The Girl at the Lion d'Or** (out of print), **Birdsong** and **Charlotte Gray** (both \$24.95 Pb). Interestingly, this very literary, yet popular, author was chosen to be the latest author to produce a James Bond book, which has now arrived, **Devil May Care** (\$32.95 Tp, \$39.95 CD). *The Guardian* review seems to imply that Faulks may be a better writer, but he "misses the chilling indifference of tone which Bond's creator brought to both kissing and killing". You wouldn't say this about the tone in **Engleby**.



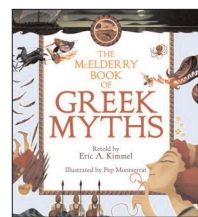
A book in travel which has an interesting theme is **The Honey Spinner: On the Trail of Ancient Honey, Vanishing Bees and the Politics of Liquid Gold** by Grace Pundyk (\$34.95 Tp 388pp). I would have enjoyed this more if I hadn't had to pull so hard to keep it open - my pet hate is books that are too tightly bound! Nonetheless, this will be interesting to lots of people.

Exciting news for Manly author John Flanagan, the first of whose **Ranger's Apprentice** stories, for young adults, set in Medieval times, is being made into a film. The seventh volume, **Erak's Ransom** (\$16.95 Pb 352pp), is out now. Although this series is published by Penguin America, they appear first in Australia, which explains why both Abbey's and Galaxy receive regular orders from American fans who can't wait!

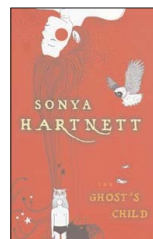


I was shelving the latest shipment of Loeb Classics recently and thinking that because I know so many classical authors (by name only, of course), I can bluff my way quite well, but then I came across an author I had never noticed before. This was Columella, who has three books **On Agriculture**. It is amazing what interesting information you can obtain while also improving your Latin or Greek in these dual-language treasures. "Red for Roman and Green for Greek" I have in my mind while I shelve! \$49.95 each for nice solid little hardbacks. Other writers on agriculture in the Loeb Classical Library are Cato, Varro, Theophrastus and Virgil, and of course they are all here at Abbey's. I think we are the only shop in the world that stocks the entire library - thanks to you, our good customers!

There is a gorgeous new addition to the Young Mythology section. This is **The McElderry Book of Greek Myths** (\$29.95 Hb) retold by Kimmel and illustrated by Pep Montserrat. I already have **The Orchard Book of First Greek Myths** at home, which is a great success with Isabel, Will and now Elise who's not yet five. I'm trying to persuade myself that we should have this new one as well because the illustrations are so gorgeous. A good reason would be that it contains some of the myths that are not in the other one, such as Prometheus, Pygmalion and Persephone.

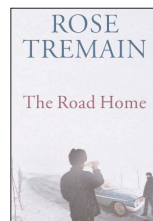


Sonya Hartnett has been to Stockholm to collect her \$880,000 **Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award**. Richly deserved, in my opinion. I've sent copies of **The Ghost's Child** (\$24.95 Hb 192pp) and **Silver Donkey** (\$19.95 Pb 204pp) to a friend in Sweden who has teenage daughters. He will also enjoy these moral stories written with great lyricism.



Have you watched *The Gruen Transfer* on ABC TV? It takes an amusing, and deadly, look at the business of advertising. You might also like a book from Melbourne University Press called **But Wait, There's More... A History of Australian Advertising 1900-2000** by Robert Crawford (\$34.95 Tp 300pp incl index). You'll probably see some names you know. Find it in Media Studies.

I was pleased to see Rose Tremain won the **Orange Prize** (for books by a woman) with her excellent novel **The Road Home** (\$32.95 Tp 320pp), about an Eastern European man trying to make his fortune in London, but deciding to return home (complete with his new-found skills). I've mentioned this before - because one day we shall put it in Historical Fiction.



Another pleasing prize-winner is Michelle de Kretser who has won the **NSW Premier's Literary Award (Christina Stead Award)** plus **Book of the Year** for **The Lost Dog** (\$35 Hb 360pp). I've also enjoyed her earlier books **The Rose Grower** (\$24.95 Pb) and **The Hamilton Case**. Even nicer to see is the fact that the various State Governments are now competing with each other to see who can give the richest literary award. Great!

I suppose all those lovely Jane Austen movies on ABC have sent you back to reading these enduring novels. At prices ranging from \$7.95 Pb to \$37.95 Hb, you have plenty of choice. Find them in the Classics row, of course.

Not only is Abbey's forty years old, so is the **Booker Prize**! There are six titles listed for the Best of the Bookers. They are Pat Barker's **Ghost Road** (\$22.95), Peter Carey's **Oscar and Lucinda** (\$24.95), J M Coetzee's **Disgrace** (\$23.95), J M Farrell's **Siege of Krishnapur**, Nadine Gordimer's **Conservationist** and Salman Rushdie's **Midnight's Children** (\$24.95). Rushdie won the **Booker of Bookers** on the 25th anniversary of the award. Will he win again? I hope so. What's your choice?

There is another wonderful new book from West Australian author Shaun Tan, who won the **Best Book for 2008** with his wordless book **The Arrival** (\$40 Hb). The latest book is a combination of stories and illustrations, suitable for readers from upper primary to graduates of the University of the Third Age. It is called **Tales from Outer Suburbia** (\$35 Hb almost 100 pages). Terrific. His other titles are **The Lost Thing** and **The Red Tree** (both \$17 Lp).



Sydney Observatory is 150 years old and still holding out against the developers who eye this wonderful site. Abbey's has an extensive section (two stands) devoted to Astronomy, maybe because manager David Hall is an amateur. He recommends **Observing the Moon: The Modern Astronomer's Guide** 2nd edition by Gerald North (\$75 Hb 408pp incl index) as being ideal for backyard astronomers who would like to move up a level. Plus **Stars and Planets** by Ian Ridpath & Will Tirion in the **Princeton Field Guide** series (\$39.95 Pb) and **Endless Universe: Beyond the Big Bang - Rewriting Cosmic History** by Paul Steinhardt and Neil Turok (\$29.95 Pb 283pp incl index).

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Binding Key	
Pb	Paperback
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Lp	Large paperback (very large)
Hb	Hardback
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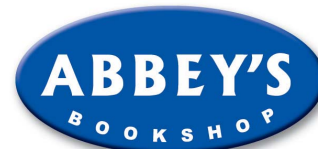
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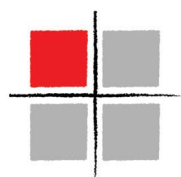


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