**BOOKS ALIVE**

**2-15 AUGUST**

Books Alive is about giving as many people as possible a great reason to enjoy a book. From 2 to 15 August, six incredible books from leading Australian authors will be available for the unprecedented price of just $5* each with the purchase of any other book.

**Ice Station**

Matthew REILLY $5*

At a remote US ice station in Antarctica, a team of scientists has made an amazing discovery. They have found something unbelievable buried deep below the surface, trapped inside a layer of ice 400 million years old. It's made of metal, and it shouldn't be there.

**Toad Heaven**

Morris GLEITZMAN $5*

The sequel to Toad Rage, the story of Limpy - a heroic and slightly squashed cane toad. This time Limpy has more extraordinary adventures as he sets off in search of a nature reserve he has heard about, where he and his friends and family will be safe. Accompanied by Goliath, he sets off on his epic adventure, but nothing goes quite according to plan.

**My Place**

Sally MORGAN $5*

This is the story of extended family, the treatment of Aborigines and history lost and found. A deeply moving account of a search for truth.

**An Anzac’s Story** - never before published

Roy KYLE, introduced by Bryce COURTENAY $5*

Roy Kyle was a typical Australian soldier, gripped by patriotism to defend King and country during WW1. He celebrated his 18th birthday in the trenches of Lone Pine, Gallipoli, where over 2,500 Australians were killed or wounded. After Gallipoli, he served in Egypt and later at the battle of the Somme, until he was wounded in the head, arms and back. Over 75 years later, at the age of 93, Roy returned to Gallipoli. This is his story.

**Tashi & Tashi and the Giants**

Anna & Barbara FEINBERG, Kim GAMBLE (illus) $5*

Tashi come from a place very far away. He escaped from a warlord and flew to Australia on a swan. And he tells the best stories ever... Two books in one.

**Year of Wonders**

Geraldine BROOKS $5*

A young woman's struggle to save her family and her soul during the most extraordinary year of 1666, when plague suddenly visited a small Derbyshire village. The villagers, inspired by a charismatic preacher, elect to quarantine themselves to limit the contagion.

**My Life as a Fake**

Peter CAREY 256pp Hb $45.00

Sarah Wode-Douglass, editor of a struggling poetry journal, is enticed to Kuala Lumpur by the man she believes is destroying Australia. Her essay is a fresh, unexpected and intellectually stimulating argument that will shock and delight.

**Quarterly Essay #11**

White Fella Jump Up: The Shortest Way to Nationhood

Germaine GREER 128pp Pb $12.95

Is Aboriginality at the core of Australia's identity? In this remarkable essay, Germaine Greer challenges white Australians to come to terms with their past and present relationship with the indigenous community. Greer discusses Australia's culture today, the current reconciliation process and the white guilt that she believes is destroying Australia. Her essay is a fresh, unexpected and superbly written argument that will shock and delight.

**Author Visits**

Clive Prestowitz is one of Washington's most cited intellectuals and political analysts. His latest book Rogue Nation: American Unilateralism and the Failure of Good Intentions (366pp Hb $49.95) is an indictment of the Bush administration's foreign policy. Despite stated good intentions - the causes of justice and democracy - the US has become the world's largest rogue nation.

**12.30 - 1.30 Wednesday 20 August**

Two Great Crime Writers

Peter Robinson, departing from his bestselling Inspector Banks series, has an exciting new book Caedmon’s Song (288pp Tp $30.00). One warm June night, a university student called Kirsten is viciously attacked in a park by a serial killer. He is interrupted and Kirsten survives, but in a severe and psychologically damaged state.

**12.30 - 1.30 Tuesday 19 August**

Lisa Scottoline, the New York Times bestselling author, delivers her strongest book ever, Dead Ringer (352pp Tp $30.00), featuring many of the much loved characters from the wise-cracking, all-women Philadelphia law firm of Rosato and Associates.

**12.30 - 1.30 Thursday 21 August**
The Stranger at the Palazzo d’Oro
Paul THEROUX
256pp Tp $29.95
A compelling and sexy novella which tells the story of a love affair between a young man and an older woman. He, the narrator, is a 21-year-old American art student travelling the world. She is a countess - apparently cold, haughty and inaccessible. And with her is the doctor, Haroun, her gay travelling companion. When he makes his acquaintance at the Palazzo d’Oro, the narrator finds himself filled with unexpected lust and playing a part in something he doesn’t quite understand. Finally, aged 60, he returns to Taormina to tell his story.
Walking on Water
My Life in the Law
Chester PORTER  Hb $49.95
Porter’s life in the Law began in 1948 when, at the age of 21, he was the youngest lawyer to be admitted to the bar. He took silk in 1974 and quickly became known as Sydney’s best defence lawyer, the man many went to if they were in serious strife. His most famous cases included successfully defending Roger Rogerson on bribery charges and Judge John Ford, accused of attempting to pervert the course of justice. Porter was the counsel assisting the Northern Territory Commission of Inquiry into the convictions of Lindy and Michael Chamberlain. After clocking up scores of legendary victories, a group of Macquarie Street lawyers produced a T-shirt with the words “Chester Porter Walks on Water” emblazoned across the front, a slogan that aptly sums up a career which spanned more than 50 years. due August

Lindy WOODHEAD 498pp Hb $45.00
The story of two remarkable women – Elizabeth Arden and Helena Rubinstein. Between them they left an extraordinary legacy which touches the lives of virtually all women today – the creation of the modern cosmetics and beauty industry. The book traces the humble beginnings of both Arden and Rubinstein and examines the forces and influences that drove them. It also explores the period in which they lived, without an understanding of which their phenomenal achievement cannot be truly appreciated. The similarities between the two are intriguing: dedicated to beauty, they were both born into genteel poverty and were motivated by money and the creation of their businesses, to the exclusion of almost everything else. They were both avid social climbers and desperately thrifty. They also hated each other. This is the story of an industry, of a social movement and of a great rivalry.

(reviewed by Lindy Jones)

KIDS

Poison by Chris WOODING 269pp Pb $15.95
On her naming day, Foxglove takes the name Poison as a direct taunt to her stepmother. A wilful, fiercely intelligent and questioning girl, she is gripped by a restlessness as she cannot pretend to be content with the life she is expected to lead. When her baby sister is stolen by the phaeris, she sets out to ask the Phaerie Lord himself to give Azalea back. Poison discovers that not only is the world more amazing than she imagined, it is also far more dangerous… An imaginative tale written by the author of the bestselling The Haunting of Alaizabel Cray (Pb $12.95). Ages 13+

Boys of Blood and Bone by David METZTEN 292pp Pb $18.95
Henry is off to spend some time with his mates up the coast when his borrowed car breaks down outside a small Victorian country town. This small inconvenience becomes the turning point of his life. While waiting for the car to be repaired, he meets some locals, one of whom introduces him first to the story, then the diary, of a long-dead boy, Andy Lansell. Andy sailed off in 1917 to fight and die in the mud of France. His laconic diary entries round off each chapter, with the narrative filling in the details alluded to; they make a powerful counterpart to Henry’s struggles to make sense of the world around him and his failing relationship with Marcelle. An excellent read. Ages 15+

Close Your Eyes by Kate BANKS & Georg HALLENSLEBEN 36pp Pb $12.95
This is such a sweet and charming picture book, it’s easy to see why it was chosen as one of The New York Times Best Illustrated Children’s Books of 2002. Little tiger doesn’t want to sleep and he keeps giving his mother reasons why he won’t close his eyes. Mother tiger patiently explains that although he might not see the things around him, if he closes his eyes he will see much more. With the reassurance that his mother will be there to keep him safe, this is both a comforting and magical book. The imaginative and beautifully coloured illustrations are from the man who has done the Lily and George books (Hb $16.95). Pre-schoolers.

Beeju by Alexis DEACON 32pp Hb $29.95
This is the sort of picture book that appeals to all ages, since its simplicity works no matter how old the reader is! Beegu shouldn’t be here. Lost and lonely, the little yellow alien goes looking for someone to understand her. All the big inhabitants are unfriendly and judgemental, but some of the small ones seem hopeful… Expressive illustrations in interestingly muted tones of some sophistication makes this a children’s book above the ordinary.

How to Make a Bird by Martine MURRAY 240pp Pb $16.95
One morning, Mannie puts on her mother’s flamboyant red dress and takes the early train to Melbourne. She leaves behind her gentle, grief-stricken father, who appears to only relate to his animal patients; although Mannie loves him deeply, at 17 she feels it’s time to find her life somewhere away from the quiet country town she has grown up in. Somewhat naïve, she has always been on the outside, unlike her brilliant brother, who has always been over-praised by their difficult, temperamental French mother. The next couple of days will teach her more than she wants to learn. A thoughtful, sensitive and finely written novel, very different from Murray’s first (Slightly True Story of Cedar B Hartley Pb $14.95) and aimed at a slightly older readership. Ages 14+

ALLAN FELS
The Inside Story
Fred BRENCHLEY  Hb $29.95
Allan Fels, named by Business Review Weekly as the third most important man in Australia (behind Howard and Costello), has been one of the most influential men in the country over the past decade. His personal and public life are discussed and analysed to show the man behind all the media shots. As well as casting light on the man himself, the high profile Australian Competition and Consumer Commission battles and cases are reviewed and relived, tracing a fascinating part of Australia’s economic and political history. due August

Baghdad’s Spy
Corinne SOUZA 238pp Pb $29.95
This is the story of Britain’s Secret Intelligence Services (SIS) - often referred to as MI6 - as told from the perspective of a senior SIS spy’s daughter. Souza describes espionage as a way of life. Beginning with the murder of the ‘Boy King’ of Iraq in 1958, the year her father was recruited - and following through to her personal experience of an SIS fiasco prior to the Gulf War, but after her father’s death - Souza depicts how the SIS attempted to silence her for a number of years. Recalling the extravagant arrangements the Crown made for her father upon returning to London from Iraq, Souza tells in chilling detail how things turned sour as he struggled to balance loyalty to the Crown with the increasingly amoral demands of what had become a renegade service. The murky world of lobbying in Thatcher’s Britain is revisited as Souza explains how she became a lobbyist and was expected to inherit her father’s career by spying on Labour MPs (an inheritance she rejected). We learn of the Labour MP who came to her aid, the former senior Conservative secretary of state who assisted her and the journal editor who enabled her to tell her story.

Out of Darkness
A Memoir
Zoltan TOREY 264pp Tp $30.00
In June 1951, Hungarian-born Zoltan Torey met with an industrial accident in Sydney that was to forever change his life. While attending to his night-shift job in a factory, the plug exploded from a vat carrying battery acid above him, showering him. The acid tore at his eyes and throat, eating away his corneas and fusing his vocal cords. This once energetic, vibrant, 21-year-old was left almost alone in a foreign land, blinded and unable to speak above a whisper. No one thought he would survive. But Zoltan did survive, and he responded to this tragedy in an unusual way - he decided to devote himself to helping solve the riddle of human consciousness. This would give him back his life, as through mental techniques he learned to ‘see’ again and so could psychologically return to the world of light.
Wilful Murder
The Sinking of the Lusitania
Diana PRESTON 608pp Pb $24.95
When the Lusitania sank on 7 May 1915, over 1,200 men, women and children died. On board were some world-famous figures, but this was not the Titanic and there was no iceberg. Indeed, the Lusitania was torpedoed by a German U-boat. Using British, American and German research material, Preston answers many of the unanswered and controversial questions surrounding the Lusitania. Why didn’t Cunard listen to warnings that the ship would be a target of the Germans? Was the Lusitania sacrificed to bring the Americans into the War? What was really in the Lusitania’s hold? Was she armed? Had German agents infiltrated Cunard’s offices? And did the Kaiser’s decision to cease unrestricted U-boat warfare in response to international outrage expressed after the sinking effectively change the outcome of WWI? This book casts light on these questions surrounding one of the world’s most famous maritime disasters.

Broken Song
T G H Strehlow and Aboriginal Possession
Barry HILL 818pp Pb $24.95
This is the compelling biography of the man who created the book Songs of Central Australia (out of print), the world’s greatest treasure trove of Aboriginal song. Respected and reviled in equal measure, his allegiances were complex and, after a life that honoured the sacred, his career ended in scandal and infamy. He began collecting – songs, myths and sacred objects – in 1932, aided immeasurably by his knowledge of the Aranda (now known as Arrente) language, with which he had grown up on the Hermannsburg Mission. Strehlow called himself ‘ingoika’ or ceremonial chief, a self-proclaimed white custodian of Aboriginal culture. His intimate knowledge of sacred ceremony and tjurunga (sacred objects) made him unique among anthropologists and an object of some resentment. Strehlow had a poet’s sensitivity for language and is justifiably credited with rescuing the Aranda language from neglect and possible extinction. Equally important was the placing of the religion of the Aranda on a spiritual level with other cultures, in this way crediting the people of Aranda with full humanity in the broader world. While there is much in this book about Strehlow’s literary abilities, there is a wealth of detail regarding his travels, his uses and abuses of his authority as a patrol officer, his many political conflicts and the social forces which shaped him. The author has ranged far and wide in his efforts to draw a clearer picture of this often maligned and troubled man.

Ph (02) 9264 3111 Fax (02) 9264 8993

Fatal Treasure
Greed and Death, Emeralds and Gold and the Obsessive Search for the Legendary Ghost Galleon, Atocha
Jedwin SMITH 257pp Hb $44.95
In 1622, the Spanish galleon Atocha sank in a hurricane off the coast of Florida. On board were more than 40 tons of treasure - gold and silver ingots, coins, emeralds and jewellery, worth billions today. In 1969, Mel Fisher set out to find it. In this riveting narrative, reporter Jedwin Smith brings to life this decades-long quest. Since Mel’s death in 1998, the Fisher family has continued this epic treasure hunt, which has resulted in astounding recoveries (treasure from part of the Atocha, as well as from its sister ship, the Margarita), complex legal battles, deaths, drug addiction and madness. Smith first encountered Mel Fisher in 1985 and has been reporting on, and participating in, the Atocha treasure hunt ever since. Writing with you-are-there immediacy, he captures like no other writer the romance of big-time treasure hunting, as well as its sometimes horrible costs, taking us from astonishing discoveries of sunken gold and larger-than-life escapades in colourful Key West to foundering boats, dangerous dives and personal loss.

Khrushchev
The Man and His Era
William TAUBMAN 876pp Hb $59.95
A magisterial, definitive and compelling assessment of one of the giants of 20th century history, former Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev. William Taubman’s brilliant biography is a study in contrasts – how the boy from a peasant background rose to the heights of power; how a single-minded, ambitious political player survived 20 years under Stalin; how he opened up the Soviet Union to the West after Stalin’s death, yet brought the world close to oblivion in the Cuban Missile Crisis. What emerges is a fascinating picture of a man constantly torn between benevolence and malevolence – a man who made himself cultured and yet who could never really escape his image as a bullying country bumpkin (most famously demonstrated by his interruption of Macmillan’s speech to the UN in 1960 by banging his shoe on the table - the urbane Macmillan responded, “Mr President, perhaps we could have a translation. I could not quite follow”). Taubman has previously edited collections of Khrushchev’s speeches and reminiscences and is completely immersed in this subject.

Before the Deluge
The Vanishing World of the Yangtze’s Three Gorges
Deirdre CHETHAM 296pp Hb $52.00
After great controversy, the Chinese government began construction of the world’s largest hydroelectric dam in the Three Gorges section of the Yangtze River. The dam will raise the river level hundreds of feet and inundate close to a thousand villages, cities and towns, requiring the relocation of over a million people. Deirdre Chatham has been a guide and lecturer on the Yangtze since 1982. Having worked among them, she knows about the lives of the people who live along its shores, from fishermen plying their trade to monks entering temples of worship, and captures a sense of their daily life here, while recording their traditions and history. She paints a compelling portrait of the vanishing world of the remote, beautiful mountainous region of the upper Yangtze River and documents a civilisation that will, before long, cease to exist.

The Shield of Achilles
War, Peace and the Course of History
Philip BOBBITT 922pp Pb $27.95
For centuries, civilisation has been defined by epoch-making cycles of war and peace. But now our world has changed irrevocably. What faces us in this era of uncertainty? How do we protect ourselves against war machines that can penetrate the defences of any state? Is it too late to try? Visionary and prophetic, this book looks back at history, at the ‘long war’ of 1914-1990 and at the future - the death of the nation-state and the birth of a new, terrifying kind of conflict without precedent in our history.
Whitewash
On the Fabrication of Human History
Robert MANNE (editor) 320pp Pb $29.95
Last December, The Fabrication of Aboriginal History Volume 1 by Keith Windschuttle was published. It argued that violence between whites and Aborigines in colonial Tasmania had been vastly exaggerated and sought to rewrite the most contentious part of Australian history. The book soon attracted massive coverage, including heated criticism. Until now, Windschuttle's arguments, agenda and methods have not been comprehensively examined. Here Robert Manne collects Australia's leading writers on Aboriginal history to do just this. The result is an authoritative account of the history and politics of the colonial frontier and a demolition of revisionism. Included contributors are Henry Reynolds, Cassandra Pybus, Marilyn Lake, Lyndall Ryan, Martin Krygier and Tim Murray, due August

Man of Honour
John Macarthur
Michael DUFFY 372pp Pb $35.00
In his first book, political columnist Michael Duffy argues that John Macarthur was a founding father not just of New South Wales, but of Australia. After choosing to come to Sydney as a soldier in 1790, Macarthur set about making his fortune - an often ruthless exercise that throws into sharp relief the morality, dynamics and politics of early colonial society. Yet Duffy argues that Macarthur's manipulation of the system and of individuals, his delight in feuds and his ferocity (he fought three duels), should not mask the fact that he lived by the code of honour, an unspoken set of rules that, at the end of the 18th century, determined how powerful men dealt with each other. Duffy offers a new explanation for the so-called 'Rum Rebellion' of 1808, the most dramatic event in colonial history. He suggests that Macarthur overthrew Governor William 'Bounty' Bligh not because of rum, but because of a deep conflict over honour and status. This is the story of an extraordinary individual and the early decades of the nation that Macarthur did so much to create.

Fabulous Feasts
Medieval Cookery and Ceremony
Madeleine Perlner COSMAN 224pp Pb $60.00
Few indicators define people so well as their food. Food taboos and celebrations are vital to a culture's notions of sacrament and sin, praise and punishment, deprivation and indulgence, vigilant discipline and sustained extravagance. Medieval England's courtly appetites for splendour are evident in cookery books, courtesy manuals, household and court documents, legal records, medieval texts, and in surprising profusion, in works of art ranging from marginalia of prayer books through literary romances. This culinary excursion introduces the English banquet hall, its furnishings, its table adornments and its noble seigniors. The ‘art’ of the kitchen is explored and the all-important ingredients are scrutinised. The book concludes with over 100 recipes from medieval manuscripts. Beautiful colourplates, woodcuts and engravings make this book a feast for the eyes, as well as the imagination.

The Great Nation
France from Louis XV to Napoleon
Colin JONES 688pp Pb $27.95
There can be few more mesmerising historical narratives than the story of how the dazzlingly confident and secure monarchy that Louis XIV, 'the Sun King', left to his successors in 1715 became the discredited, debt-ridden failure toppled by Revolution in 1789. The further story of the bloody unravelling of the Revolution until its seizure by Napoleon is equally astounding. Jones' key point in this narrative is that France was not doomed to Revolution and that the 'ancien regime' did remain dynamic and innovatory, twisting and turning, until finally stoven in by the intolerable costs and humiliation of its wars with Britain.

The First World War
Volume 1: To Arms
Hew STRACHAN 1,227pp Tp $59.95
This, the first of three volumes in the definitive study of the First World War, embraces cultural, diplomatic, economic and social history, and incorporates these perspectives within the military and strategic narrative. The result is an account that breaks the bounds of national preoccupations to become both global and comparative. It examines not only the causes of the war and its opening clashes on land and sea, but also the ideas that underpinned it and the motivations of the people who supported it. It provides accounts of the war's finances, of the war in Africa and of the Central Powers' bid to widen the war outside Europe. It examines all the major players and battlefronts and includes extensive coverage of Australia and New Zealand's positions at the outbreak of the war.

Web of Deceit
Britain's Real Role in the World
Mark CURTIS 512pp Pb $24.95
In this book, Mark Curtis reasons that Britain is a 'rogue state', often a violator of international law and a systematic condoner of human rights abuses, as well as a key ally of many repressive regimes. He argues that under the Blair government, Britain has become a champion of a form of globalisation that is increasing the takeover of the global economy by big business. And far from changing course post-September 11, British policies are partly responsible for the continuation - and often deepening - of global poverty and inequality, while its arms exports and nuclear policies are making the world a more dangerous place. This book describes the staggering guilt that has arisen between New Labour's professed commitment to upholding ethical values and the reality of current policies, including: British participation in the 'war on terrorism' as a new pretext for global intervention; the immorality of British policy in Afghanistan, Kosovo, Iraq and Indonesia, effective support for repressive state policies of Israel, Russia, Turkey and the Gulf states; acquiescence in the Rwanda genocide; and the deepening of poverty-increasing economic policies through the World Trade Organisation. Drawing on declassified government files, Curtis also reveals British complicity in the slaughter of a million people in Indonesia, the depopulation of the island of Diego Garcia, the overthrow of governments in Iran and British Guiana, repressive colonial policies in Kenya and Malaya, and much more.

The Much Lamented Death of Madam Geneva
Patrick DILLON 354pp Pb $24.95
Between 1720 and 1751, the 'gin craze' nearly overwhelmed London. This book follows the history of gin, or 'geneva', from its introduction from Holland after the Glorious Revolution, to its role as the sustenance of the poor - a quick trip to oblivion in the squalid and diseased poverty of 18th century London - and later to its resurgence in the Victorian Gin Palaces and prohibition America. This is the story of Madame Geneva's rise and fall. Gin-drinkers and sellers, politicians and distillers all add their voices to Patrick Dillon's vivid account of London's first drug craze, which takes us from the corridors of power to the cornfields of Norfolk, from the pulpits of reformers to the tenements of St Giles in the Fields.
The Age of Consent
A Manifesto for a New World Order
George MONBIOT 256pp Tp $35.00
If Naomi Klein's No Logo (Pb $24.95) told us what was wrong, George Monbiot promises to show us how to put it right. "Our task," he says, "is not to overthrow globalisation, but to capture it, and to use it as a vehicle for humanity's first global democratic revolution." All over our planet, the rich get richer while the poor are overtaken by debt and disaster. The world is run not by its people, but by a handful of unelected or under-elected executives who make the decisions on which everyone else depends: concerning war, peace, debt development and the balance of trade. Without democracy at the global level, the rest of us are left with no means of influencing these men other than to shout abuse and hurl ourselves at the lines of police defending their gatherings and decisions. Does it have to be this way? Monbiot knows not only that things ought to change, but also that they can change. Drawing on decades of thinking about how the world is organised and administered politically, fiscally and commercially, Monbiot has developed an interlocking set of proposals all of his own which attempts nothing less than a revolution in the way the world is run.

1215: The Year of Magna Carta
Danny DANZIGER & John GILLINGHAM 352pp Hb $49.95
The year 1215 saw a time of global upheaval from which the ripples can still be felt today, but it was also an age of domestic changes and the development of a way of life not entirely different from our own. From the oddest detail to the grandest political struggle, Danziger and Gillingham paint an extraordinary picture of this fascinating age, featuring a cast of some of the most enduring names in history - Bad King John, Genghis Khan, St Francis of Assisi - as well as thousands of ordinary people whose lives were affected by the historical events happening around them. The power struggles are balanced with the social issues of the day - fashion, communications, education, medicine, religion and sex - as the authors explore the attitudes and habits of a nation in flux, and the ways in which they sculpted the modern world.

Defying Hitler
A Memoir
Sebastian HAFFNER 259pp Pb $22.95
Sebastian Haffner was a non-Jewish German who emigrated to England in 1938. This memoir (written in exile in 1939, but hidden away until recently) begins in 1914 when the family summer holiday is cut short by the outbreak of war and ends with Hitler's assumption of power in 1933. It is a portrait of Haffner and his own generation in Germany (those born between 1900 and 1910) and brilliantly explains - through his own experiences and those of his friends - how that generation came to be seduced by Hitler and Nazism. The Germans lacked an outlet for self-expression. Where the French had amour, food and wine, the British their gardens and their pets, the Germans had nothing, leading to a tendency towards mass psychosis. The upheaval of post-WWI revolution, factionalism and inflation left the Germans addicted to excitement and action. Hitler provided this, and more.

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As with all your personal information, your email address is strictly confidential and will not be disclosed to any third party.
New in paperback is John Gross’s After Shakespeare (360pp $39.95), a unique anthology, drawing on the vast literature inspired by Shakespeare from a whole range of other writers and artists. The anthology demonstrates in the most immediate way the profound impact Shakespeare has had on our cultural life, and features material from people such as Goethe, Proust, Duke Ellington and Nelson Mandela.

Also new in paper is The Paradox of American Power (240pp $35.00) by Joseph Nye. He explains clearly why the world’s only superpower must adopt a more cooperative engagement with the rest of the world if it is to successfully face challenges such as terrorism, environmental degradation and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Australian Constitutional Landmarks (330pp Hb $89.95) edited by H P Lee and George Winterton presents the most significant cases and controversies in the Australian constitutional landscape, with cases including the Lionel Murphy Saga, the Communist Party Case, the Whitlam government dismissal and the Tasmanian Dams Case. Each chapter clearly examines the legal and political context leading to the case or controversy and the impact on later constitutional reform.

A Genealogical Chart of Greek Mythology (263pp Hb $150.00) compiled by Harold and Jon Newman is the first comprehensive genealogical chart of virtually all of the named figures of Greek mythology that can be shown to be related. The product of more than 35 years of research, it includes a 72-page continuous chart that links 3,763 named figures spanning 20 generations and an 80-page index that provides a citation to an authoritative ancient source for each relationship.

Baetica Felix (277pp Hb $95.00) by Evan Haley builds a new model of Roman-provincial relations through a socio-economic history of the province of Baetica (present-day Andalusia) from Julius Caesar to the end of the 2nd century AD. Describing and analysing the impact of Roman rule on a core province, Haley addresses two broad questions: what effect did Roman rule have on patterns of settlement and production in Baetica, and how did it contribute to wealth generation and social mobility?

In Portraits of the Ptolemies, Paul Stanwick undertakes the first complete study of Egyptian-style portraits of the Ptolemies. Examining 150 sculptures from the vantage points of literary evidence, archaeology, history, religion and stylistic development, he fully explores how they meld Egyptian and Greek cultural traditions and evoke surrounding social developments and political events.

Rome stands today for an empire and for a city. The essays in Rome the Cosmopolis (241pp Hb $160.00) explore some of the many ways in which the two were interwoven. Deploying a range of methodologies on materials ranging from Egyptian obelisks to human skeletal remains, via Christian art and Latin poetry, the contributors weave a series of pathways through the world-city, exploring the different kinds of centrality Rome had in the Empire.

Sparta: Beyond the Mirage (354pp Hb $164.85) edited by Anton Powell and Stephen Hodkinson comprises 14 papers by authors from nine different countries which demonstrate many of the fertile modern approaches to the history, archaeology and the still influential image of Sparta.

The big role played by science in World War II is explored in The Effect of Science on the Second World War (214pp Pb $59.95) by Guy Hartcup. He looks at the major innovations, such as radar and the atomic bomb, as well as gas and bacteriological weapons and developments in military medicine.

Terrorism and International Justice (252pp Pb $59.95) edited by James Sterba is a collection of new essays on terrorism and international justice. It focuses on three questions: What is the nature and rhetoric of terrorism? Who are the terrorists and why do they hate? and What is a morally justified response to terrorism? Contributors include Noam Chomsky, Louis Pojman and Martha Nussbaum.

A book that aims to rectify the lack of attention paid to the lives of young women in medieval times is Medieval Maidens: Young Women and Gender in England, 1270-1540 (246pp Pb $49.95) by Kim Phillips. It will be of interest to students of medieval history interested in themes of women and gender, youth and the life-cycle and upbringing in the medieval period.

From the Academic Presses

Upehuals of Thought
The Intelligence of Emotions
Martha NUSSBAUM 678pp Pb $49.95
Emotions shape the landscape of our mental and social lives. Like geological upheavals in a landscape, they mark our lives as uneven, uncertain and prone to reversal. Are they simply, as some have claimed, animal energies or impulses with no connection to our thoughts? Or are they rather suffused with intelligence and discernment and thus a source of deep awareness and understanding? This compelling book presents a powerful argument for treating emotions not as alien forces, but as highly discriminating responses to what is of value and importance. The author explores and illuminates the structure of a wide range of emotions, in particular compassion and love, showing that there can be no adequate ethical theory without an adequate theory of emotions. This involves understanding their cultural sources, their history in infancy and childhood, and their sometimes unpredictable and disorderly operations in our daily lives.

Society Must be Defended
Michel FOUCAULT 310pp Tp $32.95
The obligation of holding a chair at the College de France, a position Foucault held from 1971 until his death in 1984, was that they complete 26 hours worth of teaching a year. This teaching was to be an account of their work undertaken in that year and each year the sessions had to consist of something original and different. In 1975-76, Foucault's lectures, gathered here for the first time in English in this new book, looked at the idea of war and how society itself is at war, “a battle front runs through the whole of society.” Foucault's profound vision of war is not the war of weapons and battlefields, but the ongoing 'silent war' in society where all politics and institutions in power are constantly battling to dominate. Using his broad knowledge of history, Foucault uses examples (from the Gauls and Franks, the Saxons and Normans, among others) to reveal that this hidden battle within is between two types of people - the ones with power and the ones without. Foucault is known for his radical thoughts on power within society and history, and these essays show a intriguing stage in the development of these thoughts, which were some of the most controversial and influential thoughts of the 20th century.

Sync
Rhythms of Nature, Rhythms of Ourselves
Stephen STROGATZ 338pp Tp $35.00
‘Sync’ is the story of a dazzling kind of order in the universe, the harmony that comes from cycles in sync. The tendency to synchronise is one of the most far-reaching drives in all of nature. It extends from people to planets and from animals to atoms. Strogatz looks at human sleep rhythms, menstrual synchrony, insect swarms, superconductors, lasers, heart rhythms and codes, showing how self-organisation produces our coherent world.

Infidels
The Conflict Between Christendom and Islam 638-2002
Andrew WHEATCROFT 480pp Hb $49.95
How did we learn to hate or despise? Simply, because we were taught to. In 638, the Christian Patriarch of the holy city of Jerusalem called the Muslim Caliph’s presence an abomination in the sight of God. Christians and Muslims have since regarded each other warily and have silently thought of each other as ‘infidels’. This work traces the long history of this troubled relationship. It was a campaign without end, waged with the pen, through the printing press, by the power of the human voice and on subtle and insidious suggestions within paintings, drawings and engravings. We also see how and why a battle is still being waged today, through the press and books, television, radio and the Internet.

Philosophy & Religion

7  131 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000

Dave
The Greatest Mystery in the Universe
Shadows and the Thinkers Who Unlocked Their Secrets
Roberto CASATI

Science shows that the common sense picture of the world is populated with awkward entities that should be simply unacceptable because they are immaterial. Shadows are an example. Shadows are holes in light - and holes are the prototypical immaterial entities. Shadows are absences, negative entities; they are mysterious objects. Yet shadows (despite their questionable status) have been crucial in the progress of many scientific disciplines. Altitude and the size of the earth were measured by comparing shadows and they have played a major role in astronomy, geography and in the scientific study of perspective. The study of eclipses and of the Earth's shape, the invention of linear perspective in the Renaissance, the understanding of mathematical projections: the red thread linking the history of these discoveries is the fact that shadows contain an enormous amount of information which may be properly unpacked by the reader of this book.  

The Science of Fat and the Future of Thin
Ellen RUPPEL SHELL

America today faces a gathering health crisis of epic proportions - obesity and the diseases linked to it - hypertension, diabetes, cancer and heart disease. While politicians and public officials declare war against fat and multinational drug companies race to find a cure, the problem only worsens, with experts estimating that fully half of Americans will be obese by 2020. In a rare blend of erudition and entertainment, acclaimed science journalist Ellen Ruppel Shell reveals the secret history and subtle politics behind the explosion of obesity in the US and the world. She traces the epidemic’s legacy to the Ice Age, its rise through the Industrial Revolution and the early days of medicine and into modernity. Readers are taken to the front lines of the struggle to come to grips with this problem, from a modest laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, where the first super-obese mice were bred, to Rockefeller University in New York to witness the cutthroat race to clone the obese gene, to the far-flung tropical islands of Micronesia, where a horrifying outbreak of obesity among native islanders has helped scientists tease out the disorder's genetic and evolutionary roots.

Sulfur, Sputnik and Scramjets
Peter MACINNIS

Our story starts around 700 BC when the Chinese used a form of gunpowder to fumigate their houses. The first real rockets were gunpowder-filled sections of bamboo thrown under horses to scare them; the next development was to tie these to arrows. The Mongols took rockets from China to Europe where only some, including Admiral Nelson and the Crown Prince of Sweden, were impressed. The Royal Navy used them in all sorts of odd actions against “restless natives” in Tierra Del Fuego, Australia and New Zealand. The Russian and Austrian empires adopted rockets as alternatives to artillery in boggy and mountainous territory. By 1870, their heyday appeared over. But ever since the Roman Empire, people had dreamed of travelling to the moon and by 1900 some were starting to realise that rockets were the only way to get there. In the first half of the 20th century, Robert Goddard in the USA and other space enthusiasts all across Europe, started developing the rockets that are now used for space exploration, by the military, and for commercial purposes such as setting up satellite communications that have revolutionised our modern world. Our story ends with a look at the future of rockets and the third generation spacecraft, the scramjet.

The Scientific American Book of Dinosaurs
The Best Minds in Paleontology Create a Portrait of the Prehistoric Era
Gregory PAUL (ed), Robert BAKKER (illus)

Robert Bakker illustrates the new and unprecedented wave of dinosaur discoveries around the world, while David Varicchio discusses the familial relationships of dinosaurs. Walter Alvarez and Vincent Courtillot debate their theories of mass extinction, and Ken Carpenter describes the latest technologies and basic techniques of excavating fossils. Together, they provide a detailed impression of what life was like for the thunder lizards: what they looked like, how they acted and interacted, what they ate, where they lived and how they died. With a sharp, accessible design and loads of illustrations, this book is truly something to roar about.

The Tragic Tale of the Tasmanian Tiger
David OWEN

The world’s largest marsupial predator was deliberately hunted to extinction through fear, ignorance and greed. But was it a savage sheep killer or a shy, fussy, nocturnal feeder? And did it really drink its victims’ blood? Once reviled, feared and slaughtered by government decree, the myth of the Tasmanian Tiger continues to grow. So treasured is it now, the Tasmanian Tiger has become the official logo of the island that wiped it out, and a symbol of the conservation movement world-wide. A number of Australian species have miraculously reappeared after being labelled as extinct. Perhaps the Tiger is still with us. And if it’s not, can it be brought back by cloning?

50 Years of DNA
Julie CLAYTON & Carina DENNIS (eds)

Crick and Watson’s discovery of the structure of DNA in 1953 marked one of the great turning points in the history of science. Biology, immunology, medicine and genetics have all been radically transformed in the succeeding half century, and the double helix has become an icon of our times. This exploration of a scientific phenomenon provides a lucid account of the background and context for the discovery, its significance and afterlife, while a series of essays by leading scientists, historians and commentators offer individual perspectives on DNA and its impact on modern science and society.

Looking forward...
Adrian is reading The Devil Wears Prada by Lauren Weisberger (Pb $21.95), due September. He describes it as a “scarily funny story of an innocent entering New York fashion magazine publishing. Great cover!” Michelle is enjoying Seven Types of Ambiguity (Tp $30.00) by Elliot Perlman, also due September. Following years of unrequited love, an out-of-work school teacher decides to take matters into his own hands, triggering a chain of events that neither he nor his psychiatrist could have anticipated. At once a psychological thriller and a social critique, this is a story of obsessive love in an age of obsessive materialism.

Looking back...
Kath has been reading From the Holy Mountain (Pb $24.95) in which William Dalrymple retraces the journey of two monks who set off in the spring of 587AD on an extraordinary journey that would take them in an arc across the entire Byzantine world, from the shores of the Bosphorus to the sand dunes of Egypt. “A very enjoyable, informative read, packed full of amazing stories, so you can still read it on the bus.” Kath also enjoyed Holy Cow: An Indian Adventure by Sarah Macdonald (Pb $22.95). “After vowsing never to return, Sarah Macdonald finds herself living in India with her partner... Very funny, I could recommend this to anyone.”
Back in print at last, *The Mathematical Traveller* (320pp Pb $33.00) by Calvin Clawson examines the remarkable co-evolution of numbers and human culture. It takes us on a journey over continents and through time to discover how mathematics has become an integral part of our world. We stop at ancient Sumeria, China, Greece, Italy and England, where we learn about the discovery of our current counting system, the golden mean, pi, irrational numbers and other mathematical innovations.

*Predators with Pouches* (486pp Hb $186.00) edited by Menna Jones, Chris Dickman and Mike Archer provides a unique synthesis of current knowledge of the world’s carnivorous marsupials – from Patagonia to New Guinea and North America to Tasmania. Written by 63 experts in each field, it covers a comprehensive range of ecology, behaviour and conservation.

In *The Man Who Flattened the Earth* (408pp Hb $93.00), Mary Terrall uses the story of the life and works of Pierre-Louis Moreau de Maupertuis to explore what it meant to be a man of science in 18th century Europe. She not only illuminates the life and work of a colourful and important Enlightenment figure, but also uses his story to delve into many wider issues, including the development of scientific institutions and the interactions of science and government.

From Iceland to the Netherlands and Colombia to Australia, barrier islands protect much of the world’s coastlines from the ravages of the sea. *A Celebration of the World’s Barrier Islands* (309pp Hb $95.00) by Orrin Pilkey is the first survey of these islands, and combines a fascinating text with Mary Edna Fraser’s superb batiks to create an excellent tribute to these fragile and irreplaceable jewels of the oceans.

The standard rules of probability can be interpreted as uniquely valid principles in logic. In *Probability Theory: The Logic of Science* (727pp Hb $150.00), E T Jaynes shows that the range of application for these principles is far greater than was supposed in conventional probability theory, dispelling any reference to ‘chance’ or ‘random variables’. This book goes beyond the conventional mathematics of probability theory, viewing the subject in a wider context and is aimed at readers who are already familiar with applied mathematics at an advanced undergraduate level or higher.

There have been plenty of theories about the origin of the Moon, but none of them could be reconciled with the analyses of the Moon rocks brought back by the Apollo astronauts. A new theory, involving the collision of the proto-Earth with a Mars-sized object was supported by the evidence, and this theory is detailed in *The Big Splat* (232pp Hb $44.95) by Dana Mackenzie.

New in paperback is the wonderful *Tuxedo Park* (330pp Pb $29.95) by Jennet Conant. It tells the story of Alfred Loomis, the financier, philanthropist and society figure who played a big part in the development of radar in WWII, as well as the atomic bomb. A very interesting book about a very interesting man.

From the same publishers as the CRC Concise Encyclopedia of Mathematics (Hb $236.95) and the CRC Standard Mathematical Tables and Formulas (Hb $99.95) comes the CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics (2576pp Hb $286.95). Now in its 84th edition, this comprehensive reference features new tables, extensive updates and added sections that mean the handbook is reliable and thorough. This edition features a completely new table of Physical Constants of Organic Compounds with data on almost 11,000 compounds, new structure diagrams, and a new, more convenient format.

Mathematics Experiments (217pp Pb $57.95) by Shanghai Li et al aims to stimulate interest in mathematics through examples and experiments. The problems chosen range from calculus, number theory, coding and probability to geometry and chaos, and this book will prove useful not only to mathematics students, but to students in all areas of science who are interested in learning some mathematical tools.

Generalised versions of the central limit theorem that lead to Gaussian distributions over one and higher dimensions, via arbitrary iterations of simple mappings, have recently been discovered by Carlos Puente, the author of *Treasures Inside the Bell* (977pp Pb $36.95) and his collaborators. This book reveals how these new constructions result in infinite kaleidoscopic decompositions of two-dimensional circular bells in terms of beautiful deterministic patterns possessing arbitrary n-fold symmetries. It includes a CD-ROM containing selected bell patterns whose evolutions may be followed on a personal computer.

*Soyuz: A Universal Spacecraft* (459pp Pb $87.95) by Rex Hall and David Shayler is a history of this remarkable spacecraft which first flew in 1966 and has been in constant use ever since. *Europe's Space Programme* (382pp Pb $89.95) is the first comprehensive account of the development of the European space programme, from the work of the pioneers through to the successes and failures of the Ariane launcher enterprise.

A Little Taste of France

**Joanna GLYNN**

240pp Hb $59.95

Perfect for our cold winter, this book gives warmth off its pages. During the week, our meals tend to be very quick and easy, using the ingredients we have left over in the cupboard and freezer. The weekend, however, is a time we can leisurely celebrate what we cook and this is what we are unashamedly asked to do. In a time where cook books seem to be focusing on simple and fast, this book asks you to stop. Take the time to decide on what you would like to create and then do so with the very best of ingredients, enjoy preparing and then awaiting your results with a glass of wine, friends and family. With gorgeous photography, this collection of traditional and modern recipes will inspire you to take time and pleasure in your cooking.

Kath

Slow Food

**MURDOCH BOOKS**

256pp Pb $24.95

Together with its partner, *A Little Taste of Italy* (Pb $24.95), Murdoch books have put together a nice little selection of home-style cooking for all to enjoy. Now you can eat (and drink, of course) at home like they do in France and Italy. With step by step instructions, you can tuck into crab souffle or a red wine risotto. Maybe you would prefer to just look at the pictures - lovely photographs of regional markets - and read a little food history.

Kath

In the Devil's Garden

**Stewart Lee ALLEN**

326pp Pb $22.95

Our history has been peppered with food taboos that have shaped civilisations. Allen's historical smorgasbord includes the importance of chocolate in the French Revolution, how a spat between chefs caused a rift in the Catholic Church that lasted 1,000 years and why Caesar fought food. Using the seven deadly sins as a framework, Allen explores a plethora of foods that have been shunned throughout the centuries and banned by cultures around the world. After opening each chapter with a menu featuring dishes ‘appropriate’ for that particular sin, the author serves up the various reasons why such foods as tomatoes, chocolate and potatoes have been feared, scorned or restricted. He adeptly draws from a range of disciplines, including biology, sociology, history, religion, anthropology and literature, for examples to illuminate the individual food tales. A brief selection of historical recipes adapted for the modern-day cook and the occasional personal travel tale from the author are mixed among many entertaining stories.

Kath

Passion for Fruit

**Lorenza DE MEDICI**

160pp Pb $39.95

This beautiful book is worth having just for Mike Newton's gorgeous photographs, as well as the mouth-watering, Tuscan-inspired recipes. Influenced by the paintings of Giovanna Garzoni, the 17th century Florentine artist, Newton's still life photos of lush, 'just picked' fruit seem to leap from the page. De Medici, a well known Italian cookery author, is concerned that we are losing the real experience of seasonal fruit because of the wide availability of all produce, all year round in our fast paced day and age. The simple beauty and taste of local, freshly plucked, sun ripened fruit cannot be surpassed, as he illustrates, combining entertaining tales with delicious recipes.

Kath

It Must’ve Been Something I Ate

**Jeffrey STEINGARTEN**

346pp Pb $22.95

In this collection of provocative, witty and erudite food essays, Jeffrey Steingarten continues his quest for the perfect meal. He chews over the supreme hors d’oeuvres recipe, embarks on a hunt for bluefish tuna and, in *The Man Who Cooked for his Dog*, responds to bafeful looks from his golden retriever by cooking him dishes of braised short ribs. It is a gloriously diverse menu from the man who has dedicated his life to searching out the ultimate in food experiences - at considerable expense to his waistline - for your reading pleasure. Read it and eat! due August
Information War
American Propaganda, Free Speech and Opinion Control Since 9-11
Nancy SNOW 208pp Pb $19.95
In this disturbing book, former United States Information Agency employee Nancy Snow describes how US propaganda efforts and covert operations are expanding more rapidly today than at any other time in US history, as the Bush administration attempts to increase US dominance by curbing dissent and controlling opinion. Snow discusses how, immediately after September 11, Bush administration officials met with Hollywood executives to coordinate efforts to bolster the US military in films, public service announcements and sponsored discussions on security. She also points out that John Poindexter, a convicted perjurer who supervised the illegal Iran-Contra deals, has been quietly appointed to lead the Department of Defense’s new ‘Information Awareness Office’, whose function is high-tech tapping of computer networks in the US and abroad. This is becoming an information war over the control of images, information and ideology that shape public opinion and behaviour. Snow lays out for us the propaganda techniques that the government uses to control dissent in the 21st century.

Branded
The Buying and Selling of Teenagers
Alissa QUART 336pp Pb $22.95
It is no secret that corporations have always tried to woo teen consumers and spend billions of dollars annually to do so. (See Brandchild Hb $69.95 on how to market to kids). The efforts to relieve teens of their disposable cash are pervasive and not nearly as benign as one might hope. This is a book about the dark side of marketing to teens; a fast-paced world in which adults shamelessly insinuate themselves into ‘friendships’ with young people in order to monitor what they eat, wear and buy - all the better to further exploit and manipulate their budding tastes, further down the (bottom) line. All is not entirely lost; these are specifically American teens, so some of the examples here won’t apply (yet) to Australia. Your child - hooked on the Web - may be one of a growing number of teens who are attempting to turn the tables by deconstructing the media and the message from the ‘superbrand’ corporations. Give them this book and encourage a LOT of open the world through a love of books. He has cut through the jargon and the propaganda techniques that the government uses to control dissent in the 21st century.

The Child that Books Built
A Memoir of Childhood and Reading
Francis SPUFFORD 224pp Pb $24.95
This beautiful little book is part autobiography, part meditation (on the nature of books and reading) and part literary and historical analysis of certain themes in fiction. It is an intimate revelation of the general joys of being a reader and the specific reasons why Spufford had (and has) such a deep-rooted need to immerse himself in the inventions of other author’s imaginations. He tells of the joys that emerged as black scratches on the page revealed dragons in The Hobbit (Pb $19.95) when he was a sick youngster; of discovering the rich sensualities of The Chronicles of Narnia (Pb $29.95) “beat into… one continuous shivering silver leaf of story”; and how the classics complicated his patterns of reading. This is a fine and joyous celebration of the books that formed a reader.

The Lowest Rung
Voices of Australian Poverty
Mark PEEL 240pp Pb $37.95
This is a fascinating, impressively original and profoundly moving account of the impact of economic rationalism on members of the poorest parts of Australian society. Based on the author’s conversations with hundreds of people living in three areas commonly described as ‘disadvantaged’ - Inala in Queensland, Mount druitt in New South Wales and Broadmeadows in Victoria - this is a book in which impoverished Australians, who are often absent from debates about poverty, tell their own stories. Some are funny, others are sad. There are stories about loss, despair and an uncertain future they can hardly bear to tell. But there are also stories about hope and the capacity of poorer people to imagine and create a fairer world. This book provides an intimate account of real people’s fears, hopes and dilemmas in the face of growing inequality, entrenched unemployment and fading opportunities for the young. 

The Bitch in the House
26 Women Tell the Truth About Sex, Solitude, Work, Motherhood and Marriage
Cathi HANAUER (editor) 284pp Pb $29.95
Women today are supposed to have it all. A fulfilling career, a loving marriage, children, fantastic sex and a beautiful home. Not to mention looking flawless at all times and younger than they actually are. Is it any wonder that so many feel angry, dissatisfied, stressed out? Funny, passionate, angry and provocative, this is a no-holds-barred look at working women’s lives today. Here 26 women - ranging in age from 24 to 67 and single and childless, or married with children, or four times divorced - offer details of their lives that they’ve never publicly revealed. They talk about the choices they’ve made, their relationships, families, frustrations and hopes. For some, the conflicts involve the stresses of juggling motherhood and a career; for others, the feeling of not wanting children - or the fear that they’ve left it too late.

The Oxford Guide to Word Games
Tony AUGARDE 294pp Hb $59.95
If you stumble over your new mat in the hall, what science are you shown to have neglected? Pneumatics. Charades, hangman, anagrams, tongue twisters and, new for this edition, games based on text messaging. Dozens of fun and fiendish word games jostle for space in this updated edition of Tony Augarde’s guide. From the hightrow biddle to the lowly pun, this book provides a comprehensive history of verbal wit and wordplay. Organised thematically, the book examines 26 forms of word game in absorbing detail, including their history, and provides entertaining examples throughout. From Scrabble and Spoonerisms, Crosswords and Chronograms to Playing with Poetry, neither the crossword addict nor the student of linguistics and lexicography will be able to resist!

Motherhood and Marriage
26 Women Tell the Truth About Sex, Solitude, Work, Motherhood and Marriage
Cathi HANAUER (editor) 284pp Pb $29.95
Women today are supposed to have it all. A fulfilling career, a loving mate, children, fantastic sex and a beautiful home. Not to mention looking flawless at all times and younger than they actually are. Is it any wonder that so many feel angry, dissatisfied, stressed out? Funny, passionate, angry and provocative, this is a no-holds-barred look at working women’s lives today. Here 26 women - ranging in age from 24 to 67 and single and childless, or married with children, or four times divorced - offer details of their lives that they’ve never publicly revealed. They talk about the choices they’ve made, their relationships, families, frustrations and hopes. For some, the conflicts involve the stresses of juggling motherhood and a career; for others, the feeling of not wanting children - or the fear that they’ve left it too late.

The Reading Bug
...and how you can help your child to catch it
Paul JENNINGS 244pp Pb $24.95
"No matter where they go, children lost in books will always find their way home." Your child deserves the best reading teacher in the world. Paul Jennings tells you how to find this person - go look in the mirror. In a clear and humorous style, he explains how you can open the world through a love of books. He has cut through the jargon and the controversies to reveal the simple truths which will enable every parent to infect their child with the reading bug. Now you can benefit from the advice of Australia’s bestselling children’s author, tested over years of teaching, lecturing, writing and parenting.
For those of you who have seen the film Russian Ark, have you read Malcolm Bradbury's satirical novel To the Hermitage ($21 Pb), in which he contrasts the visit of an academic convention with Diderot's journey to Russia to enlighten Catherine the Great? Another book from our Russian History section is Fall of the Romanovs by Steinberg & Krushelnytsky ($57 Pb 444pp), a fascinating account of the reactions and judgements of the people involved in the holding of the Romanov family. (This comes from Yale University Press, so it may take a couple of weeks to restock if already sold). These are primary documents in a time of revolution, of the political dreams and personal struggles of the people who held the family. Another good one-volume, up-to-date general history is Russia and the Russians by Geoffrey Hosking ($35 Pb 718pp).

Guess what has arrived – with a bam – from Penguin? A one-volume, complete translation from the original Latin of The Domesday Book (1,436 pages incl glossary and index of places). This well-bound hardback, with bookmark, is only $79.50. Find it in History: Dark Ages under Dr Ann Williams, one of the editors. The experts seem to think that this is one of the finest histories in all of history. William the Conqueror himself didn’t think of this, but was very happy to commission the originator to ‘make a survey of all England; of the lands in each of the counties; of the possessions of each of the magnates, their lands, their habitations, their men, both bond and free, living in huts or in halls; or land; of ploughs, horses and other animals; of the services and payments due from each and every estate.’ What a detailed picture of 11th century life! And it is still consulted today.

History: Dark Ages is in the aisle left of the stairs to Language Book Centre. It is followed by History: Medieval British, where you will find a superb biography of the poet who managed to remain forever cheerful in the calamitous 14th century. Richard West’s Chaucer: The Life and Times of the First English Poet (Hb 302pp incl index) is at the special price of $45. Nice big print. After Medieval British History is Medieval History, where I see the third edition of Malcolm Lambert’s Medieval Heresy: Popular Movements from the Gregorian Reform to the Reformation ($73.70 Pb 491pp incl index). If you feel this should be in Religion, you have only to turn around because Religion is on the opposite side of the aisle.

There was a nice piece in the New York Times recently about a Genealogical Chart of Greek Psychology ($159 Hb 262pp) published by University of North Carolina Press. Over many years, by Harold Newman and his son Jon. We have two copies on hand and it won’t fit on your normal bookshelf (roughly 40cm x 25cm), so it is on display behind the counter. Jon discovered a few ‘mistakes’ in his father’s early work once he put it on computer. “What do you mean ‘mistakes’ asked his wife? These people aren’t real!”

I was going to send to a friend My Name is Red by Orhan Pamuk ($22.95 Pb 508pp), which won this year’s very rich IMPAC Prize. However, I changed my mind when I tried to read it myself. I just couldn’t do it. I could not accept protestations of eternal love for a woman merely gaped at a barred window. It made me thing of cavatina over protestation or remark. However, don’t take my word only. The book received rapturous reviews, one critic even suggesting that it should receive the Nobel Prize. Decide for yourself. Set in 15th century Turkey.

Instead I sent her my old favourite, Kinta Bevor’s A Tuscan Childhood ($22.95 Pb 270pp). I re-read this myself, which is just as well, because I found Kinta is Antony Bevor’s mother, not grandmother, as I have previously mentioned. It was his grandmother who owned the magnificent Fortezza della Brulliana and inherited the portion from great aunt Janet Ross, only child of Lucy Duff Gordon, who was author of Letters from Egypt 1863-65 ($22 Pb 383pp), which is in the Virago Classic Travellers Tales. There is a nice little photo of four-year-old Antony presenting a posy to Iris Origo, author of Merchant of Prato ($28 Pb) and War in Val d’Orcia ($22.95 Pb). We also have a biography of the fascinating (and very rich) Iris Origo: Marchesa of Val d’Orcia by Caroline Moorehead ($70 Hb 351pp, with Pb due at the end of the year).

Peter Milne recently gave me a note from History Today about some prizewinners. Antony Bevor was awarded the Longman History Today Trustees Award for his outstanding contribution to the promotion and enjoyment of history. Georgina Buckner was awarded the Historical Picture Researcher of the Year for Medieval Panorama edited by Robert Bartlett. We have this in stock at the special price of $50, reduced from $99. I notice we have another book by Antony Bevor in Spanish History, Spanish Civil War ($19.95 Pb 461pp), in the Cassell Military Paperback series, covers the war from its origins in the July 1936 coup to the defeat of the Republicans in 1939.

Jack Winning tells me that, during June, more than 1,750 new titles came into our three shops – Abbey’s, Language Book Centre and Galaxy. No wonder we get short of space on the shelves, since we continue to stock lots of backlist titles that you won’t find in other shops. All the more reason to subscribe to Michelle’s email advice History Alert, which lists the new history titles arriving each month. For those without access to email, copies are available at the information counter for you to consult.

I decided to read John Gimlette’s At the Tomb of the Inflatable Pig ($32.95 Pb 362pp) because of the strange title and unusual cover! This is a mix of history and travel writing about that most strange country, Paraguay. The stories he tells in a sardonic voice are both hilarious and frightening. As he says, if he had written them as fiction, they would not be believed. Humour is often the best weapon in this war for survival. How else do people survive tyrants and catastrophes? I certainly didn’t doubt any of the stories. I remember on one of my trips overseas with the Friends of Australian Opera, we visited a duty free market just over the border one of my trips overseas with the Friends of Australian Opera, we visited a duty free market just over the border one of my trips overseas with the Friends of Australian Opera, we visited a duty free market just over the border that is not on the shelf.

Two other new Dover titles I shelved are Church Vestments: Their Origin and Development ($39.95 Pb), which has lots of illustrations and covers the period to the end of the 1400s, and Ancient Egyptian Mesopotamia and Persian Costume by Mary Houston ($29.95 Pb 160pp) with black and white illustrations, which is in History: Ancient Near East, rather than Egyptology.

In African History, I found a hard-to-classify book called Diamond: History of a Cold-Blooded Love by Matthew Hart ($23.95 Pb 287pp incl index). This mix of science, espionage and wild adventures no doubt ended up in African History because so many of the diamond fields are in southern Africa, despite the fact that the fortified diamond houses are mostly in London.

Harry Potter fever continues in unexpected directions. We have many special orders for Harrius Potter et Philosophi Lapis ($39.95 Hb), which is expected soon. Add your name to the list.

I went to a very nice lunch at the Australian Museum to announce the shortlist for journalism within the Eureka Science Prizes. Finalists will be announced in August at Fox Studios. It’s great to see Science and Scientists not only being acknowledged, but also having fun.

I hope you’re enjoying spending your Reward Dollars. Thanks for your support. We do appreciate it.

Eve
Abby’s Bestsellers - July

Non-Fiction
1 A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson (Hb $45.00)
2 The White Mughals by William Dalrymple (Tp $27.95)
3 Berlin: The Downfall 1945 by Antony Beevor (Tp $35.00)
4 Bad Company: The Cult of the CEO Quarterly Essay #10 by Gideon Haigh (Pb $12.95)
5 Stupid White Men by Michael Moore (Pb $22.00)
6 Colour: Travels Through the Paintbox by Victoria Finlay (Pb $24.95)
7 Salt: A World History by Mark Kurlansky (Pb $24.95)
8 The Future of Freedom: Illiberal Democracy at Home and Abroad by Fareed Zakaria (Hb $44.95)
9 The Closing of the Western Mind by Charles Freman (Tp $40.00)

Fiction
1 Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J K Rowling (Hb $45.00)
2 When the Eagle Hunts by Simon Scarrow (Pb $18.95)
3 The Red Tent by Anita Diamant (Pb $19.95)
4 The Justification of Johann Gutenberg by Blake Morrison (Pb $22.95)
5 The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time by Mark Haddon (Hb $29.95)
6 Crabwalk by Gunter Grass (Tp $28.00)
7 The Shelters of Stone by Jean M Auel (Pb $19.95)
8 I Don’t Know How She Does It by Allison Pearson (Pb $21.95)
9 The Life of Pi by Yann Martel (Tp $27.00)
10 The Twenty-Seventh City by Johnathon Franzen (Pb $21.95)

Now in Paperback
Magda Goebbels by Anja Klebunde $26.95
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