

# ABBHEY'S ADVOCATE

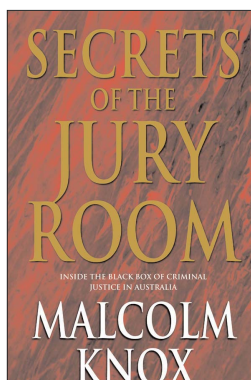
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## Secrets of the Jury Room

Malcolm KNOX Tp \$32.95

Lawyers and judges voice platitudes about the wisdom, common sense and community values that juries bring to bear in each case, but it is clear from Knox's recent experience of a long jury trial that this is a legal fiction. He found chillingly apposite an old legal adage: "you'd love to be in front of a jury if you'd committed a crime, but hate to be in front of one when you hadn't". From the extraordinary story unfolding in the courtroom, to the equally amazing account of how events unfolded in the jury room, to interviews with barristers, solicitors and other players in the criminal justice system, he investigates the tricks of the trade and sketches the vast difference between what courts think juries should be and what juries really are. The results are guaranteed to blow the mind of anyone interested in justice and how it works in Australia. *due August*



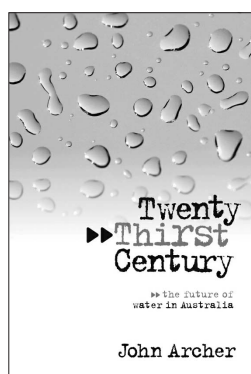
## Twenty Thirst Century

The Future of Water in Australia

John ARCHER 120pp Pb \$24.95

This is Archer's fifth book about Australia's ever-worsening water crisis and he states his case for reduction of consumption of water and other resources very clearly, reiterating that exponential population growth is unsustainable in a finite space with finite resources. His tone is gently hectoring, as if encouraging a wayward child, but given the breadth of information he supplies I'm surprised that he isn't hysterical with frustration! His chapter on desalination should have been read by Mr Carr, as 60 years of application in different countries has resulted in many an embarrassing and costly fiasco. Recycled water doesn't fare any better, domestic plumbing would cost too much and industrial consumers reject recycled water as unsuitable for their purposes. In Survival Technology, there are many useful ideas for attaining water self-sufficiency in and around the home. Archer is well informed on related environmental issues and his notes for each chapter, combined with an excellent bibliography, show how much thought and energy he has put into this book. It is a book that should be in all libraries and schools, prompting discussion and firing debate that might lead to effective, meaningful action on all of our parts. A very timely read indeed! *due August*

Cara



## 50 Remarkable Books to Sink Your Teeth Into Plus a Free Book from Bestselling Author, Matthew Reilly

The 2005 **Books Alive Great Read Guide** outlines 50 of today's most remarkable books, ranging across general fiction, crime, romance, cooking, history, biographies, war and books for children of all ages, including the very young. Hundreds of books were carefully reviewed by Australian book industry experts to arrive at this great selection.

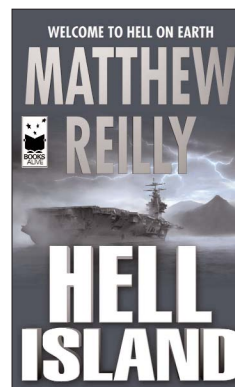
Purchase any book from this guide during August and receive a free copy of **Hell Island**, a new thriller by Matthew Reilly, commissioned exclusively for Books Alive. Only available while stocks last.



## Hell Island

Matthew REILLY

Free with the purchase of any title from the free 2005 **Books Alive Great Read Guide**. Hell Island doesn't appear on any map. It is a secret place, where secret experiments have been going on. Experiments that have gone terribly wrong . . . When all contact with the island is inexplicably lost, four crack special forces units are dropped in, their mission: to land on Hell Island and discover what has happened. Nothing can prepare them for what they find there. You could say they've just entered hell. Only that would be wrong. This is much, much worse.



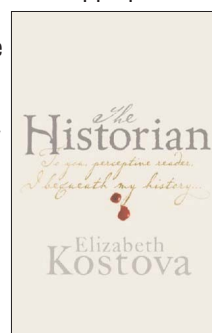
## The Historian

Elizabeth KOSTOVA

656pp Tp \$32.95

This is the very best kind of escapism, utterly enthralling and near impossible to put down once begun! A rather odd book with a mysterious woodcut has come to the attention of our narrator, along with a bundle of letters, written by her father, addressed to his "unfortunate successor". They are a key to the labyrinthine history of mediaeval Bulgaria, Romania and the Ottoman Empire. More startlingly, the secrets of her father's past and her mother's mysterious disappearance connect to an evil hidden in the depths of the landscapes (and bloodlines) of the Balkans. Unable to resist, she is seduced by the mysteries of scholarship and blood ties, drawn into a quest to decipher obscure signs and hidden texts, reading codes worked into the fabric of medieval monastic traditions and evading terrifying adversaries in her journey to an unlooked-for enlightenment. While this is in essence a classic tale of the struggle between good and evil, what makes it an absolute standout is the human love and frailty, drawn in such a way as to mix the adventure of living with a sense of hope found in the lost realities of the past. Magnificent stuff!

Cara



The Sydney Mechanics School of Arts are hosting a free public talk and discussion entitled *The Water Crisis: A Sydney Perspective* by John Archer and invited guests on 11 August at 6.30pm for 7pm, Level 1, 280 Pitt St, Sydney. Seating is limited. For bookings please phone Gail Quirk on (02) 9262 7300.

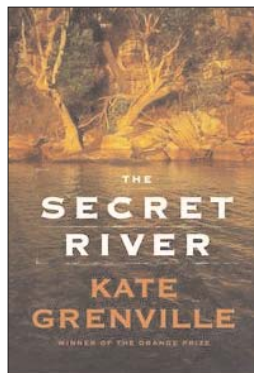


Books - Where Ideas Grow

## The Secret River

Kate GRENVILLE 354pp Hb \$45.00

After a childhood of poverty and petty crime in the slums of London, William Thornhill is sentenced in 1806 to be transported to New South Wales for the term of his natural life. With his wife Sal and children in tow, he arrives in a harsh land that feels at first like a death sentence, but among the convicts there is a whisper that freedom can be bought, an opportunity to start afresh. Away from the infant township of Sydney, up the Hawkesbury River, Thornhill encounters men who have tried to do just that: Blackwood, who is attempting to reconcile himself with the place and its people, and Smasher Williams, whose fear of this alien world turns into brutal depravity towards it. As Thornhill and his family stake their claim on a patch of ground by the river, the battle lines between old and new inhabitants are drawn.



## The Lost Thoughts of Soldiers

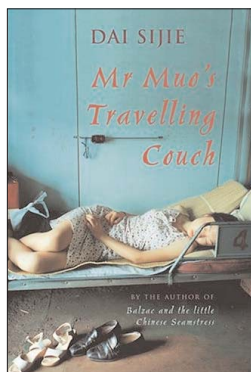
Delia FALCONER 156pp Hb \$28.00

It has been an eight-year wait since Falconer's first captivating novel **The Service of Clouds** (Pb \$22.00). Like Geraldine Brooks, she has turned her attention to the US frontier. Frederick Benteen, a captain in General Custer's Seventh Cavalry during the plains Indian wars, is reviewing his life. His General has been dead for more than 20 years, killed in action, considered a hero, while the public has never forgiven Benteen for surviving. Now, at last, he begins to put down some account of those two horrific days pinned down on a ridge. What follows is an exquisite eulogy for his fellow soldiers, both alive and dead, as he refuses to bow to the demands of legend. As he begins to write, he finds himself haunted by his lost companions: by Star-Gazer, who joined the army to write poems; mysterious Handsome Jack, who plays the banjo; gentle de Rudio, the bugler; Young Tom, who stands in Custer's shadow; and the Choir, a group of lost souls. Told over the space of a single morning, this is about death and dying, women and war, growing old, parenthood, friendship and soldierliness. It is about a nation's preoccupation with celebrity, and what, in the end, a life is worth. *due August*

## Mr Muo's Travelling Couch

Dai SIJIE 352pp Hb \$39.95

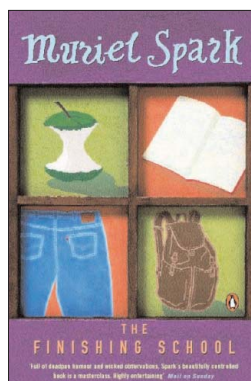
Sijie's second novel is a Chinese Don Quixote, following the peripatetic misadventures of Mr Muo, China's first psychoanalyst. It's over 10 years since Muo has visited his native China. He's been in Paris, exploring his subconscious and devouring the works of Freud and Lacan. When Muo hears that his first great love has been thrown into a Chinese jail for selling a newspaper article to the foreign press, he feels he must rush home and rescue her. He returns to a China where everyone is corruptible, provided you find the right bribe. Sadly, the \$10,000 Muo offers Judge Di to free his beloved is not enough. The judge, tired of cash and cars, orders Muo to bring him a virgin girl to satisfy his sexual predilection for the unsullied. Thus begins a series of hilarious adventures as Muo goes in search of a virgin, setting himself up as an itinerant interpreter of dreams and losing his own virginity in the process. Witty, surreal, moving, wonderfully picaresque, it is packed full of stories, anecdote, incident and mishap, all resulting in a highly enjoyable satire of one man's attempt to negotiate the mind-boggling maze of modern China.



## The Finishing School

Muriel SPARK 160pp Pb \$22.95

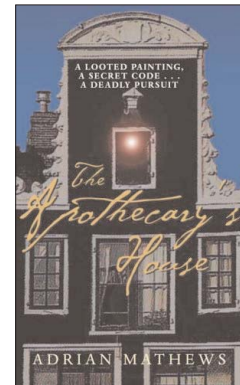
Passionately determined to write his novel whilst running College Sunrise, a finishing school for both sexes and mixed nationalities, Rowland Mahler is assisted by his wife, Nina Parker. This term there is a new star pupil - Chris, 17, also determined to write his masterpiece. As Chris's novel takes shape, while his own flounders, Rowland becomes increasingly obsessed and his book becomes awash with jealousy and envy. This new novel amply displays Spark's extraordinary talent: her cool, biting humour and unique vision of human nature.



## The Apothecary's House

Adrian MATHEWS 450pp Tp \$30.00

When an old woman storms into the Rijks Museum demanding the return of her painting, archivist Ruth Braams cannot quell her curiosity. Together with Myles, her gay confidant, Ruth delves into the history of the piece of looted Nazi art and discovers an enigmatic picture with a disturbing wartime provenance. It also appears that the elderly Lydia is not the only claimant and, against strict bureau regulations, Ruth endeavours to help strengthen her case. Days later, Ruth begins to receive sinister anonymous threats, warning her to stay away from Lydia and the painting. When the door of her home, a houseboat on the Bloemgracht canal, is covered in graffiti and her gas supply tampered with, Ruth is convinced these are deterrents from the rival claimant. Our irrepressible and emotionally troubled heroine refuses to take them at face value and continues to strike up a friendship with the lonely old lady. But as the threats escalate, Ruth realises that there must be far more to the painting's popularity, and she enters into a series of increasingly lethal adventures as she investigates the painting's secret symbolism...

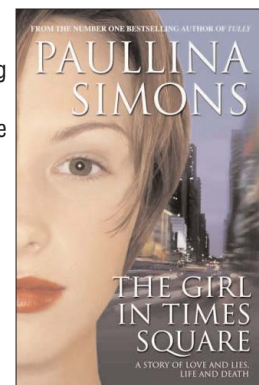


## The Girl in Times Square

Paulina SIMONS

What if everything you believed about your existence turned out to be a lie? Meet Lily Quinn. She is broke, struggling to finish college, pay her rent and find love. Adrift in bustling New York City, the most interesting things in Lily's life happen to the people around her. But Lily loves her aimless life, until her best friend and roommate, Amy, disappears. That's when Spencer Patrick O'Malley - a cynical, past-his-prime NYPD detective with demons of his own - enters Lily's world. A sudden financial windfall, which should bring Lily joy, instead becomes an ominous portent of the dark forces gathering around her.

672pp Tp \$24.95

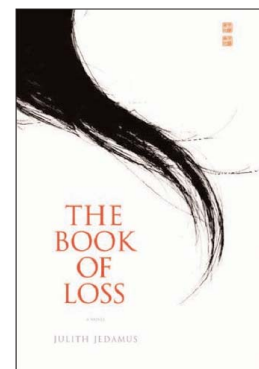


## The Book of Loss

Julith JEDAMUS

This book takes the reader on an ambitious journey deep into the psyche of a group of women and their social environment of 10th century Japan. It is a world of emotional intensity and paucity of freedom. The court of the Emperor where the mysterious narrator and her rival Izumi live is tightly bound with complex social rules. The hierarchy is extreme, and despite their own relative high ranks, in the presence of the Empress, they are nothing. It is a society of hypocrisy in which men and women may be separated by a curtain in public in order to maintain their modesty, and yet extramarital affairs are commonplace. Despite the apparent sexual liberalism, to be a woman shamed is to be worthless, nameless, and to risk exile. At the start of the novel, the greatest scandal imaginable has taken place. Kanesuke, the narrator's lover (also lover of Izumi) has seduced the Virgin of Ise - one of the Emperor's daughters - and he has been exiled. The narrator's sense of loss is unbearable, as her love is all consuming, and now it will push her to extremes of rivalry.

256pp Tp \$29.95

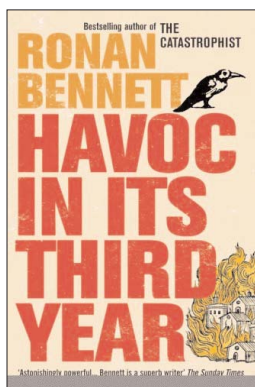




## Havoc, in Its Third Year

Ronan BENNETT 256pp Pb \$21.95

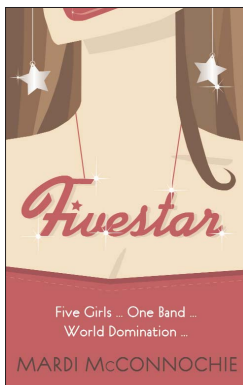
England in the 1630s: turbulent times, with fears of foreign invasion and Catholic conspiracies rife. John Brigge, a farmer and coroner, is respected in his North Country community, but harbours a dangerous secret: he is also a Catholic. When he is called to adjudicate on the murder of a new-born child, Brigge finds himself drawn into matters he would rather avoid. Katherine Shay, an Irishwoman, is accused of killing her baby, and the town's powerful Puritan faction demands her immediate death. Brigge suspects their haste has little to do with a quest for justice. What are they hiding? And does he really want to know?



## Fivestar

Mardi McCONNOCHIE 400pp Tp \$22.95

Five girls, one band, and a dream of complete world domination ... "Singer/dancers wanted for girl group". It all began with an ad in the paper. You could say it all began with Darryl, but there was no way he was going to be able to control the five girls he selected to be the vehicle for his popstar dreams. Tyler, on the other hand, offers the five a chance to make a reality TV documentary series called *Chasing the Dream*. It's the early 1990s, and girl bands and reality television are new and exciting. The girls land a record deal, top the charts in Australia, then the UK, then on to America. Jules is the natural leader, outgoing, cheeky, bursting with energy and life. Claudia is the cruel and beautiful fashion queen. Ellie used to do competitive gymnastics. Now her obsessions need another outlet. Sam is the one who can actually sing, and writes songs (not that her songs are ever used, but that's another story). And Suzy is the girl next door, with her ponytails and optimism. Funny, knowing, wise, tragic - and everything you ever dared to believe about the reality of celebrity - this is the world of pop music and the price of fame.

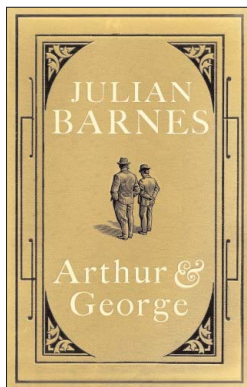


## Arthur and George

Julian BARNES 352pp Hb \$49.95

Arthur and George grow up worlds and miles apart in late 19th century Britain: Arthur in shabby-genteel Edinburgh, George in the vicarage of a small Staffordshire village. Arthur becomes a doctor, and then a writer; George a solicitor in Birmingham. Arthur is to become one of the most famous men of his age, George remains in hardworking obscurity. But as the new century begins, they are brought together by a sequence of events which made sensational headlines at the time as The Great Wyrley Outrages. George Edjali's father is Indian, his mother Scottish. When the family begins to receive vicious anonymous letters, many about their son, they put it down to racial prejudice. They appeal to the police, to no less than the Chief Constable, but to their dismay he appears to suspect George of being the letters' author. Then someone starts slashing horses and livestock. Again the police seem to suspect the shy, aloof Birmingham solicitor. He is arrested and, on the flimsiest evidence, sent to trial, found guilty and sentenced to seven years' hard labour. Arthur Conan Doyle, famous as the creator of the world's greatest detective, is mourning his first wife (having been chaste in love for ten years with the woman who was to become his second) when he hears about the Edjali case. Incensed at this obvious miscarriage of justice, he is galvanised into trying to clear George's name. With a mixture of detailed research and vivid imagination, Julian Barnes brings to life not just this long-forgotten case, but the inner lives of these two very different men.

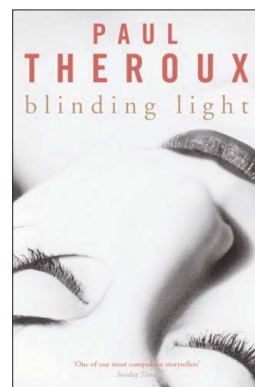
*due August*



## Blinding Light

Paul THEROUX 432pp Tp \$29.95

Slade Steadman has written one of the most famous travel books ever, but he has been unable to write anything else for 30 years. A journey downriver in a remote eastern province of Ecuador among the Secoya Indians gives him the experience he has been seeking - and a miracle drug. He returns to the USA with the drug, which induces temporary blindness. He is energised - able not only to write and remember, but granted an almost uncanny prescience, bordering on second sight. This dazzling and disturbing story of revelation and creativity is a tour de force from a writer at the height of his powers. *due August*

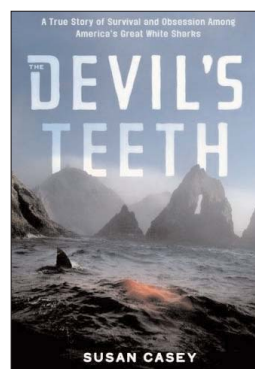


## Biography

### The Devil's Teeth

Susan CASEY 304pp Tp \$30.00

The Farallon Islands lie just 30 miles west of one of the most densely populated urban landscapes on earth - San Francisco. Yet these jagged rock outcrops rising from the Pacific Ocean are among the wildest and most untamed areas in the world - haunted by storm, fog and current. The islands are also home to the largest known population of mature Great White Sharks. Two biologists, more akin to surfers in their outlook and passions, have manned these lonely rocks for over a decade, following every movement of the sharks - often in a small boat that is dwarfed by the 20-foot leviathans they study. Together they have acquired more knowledge about these fearsome, yet beautiful, animals than almost any other scientists on earth. Susan Casey first heard about the work of these men in a BBC documentary. Immediately intrigued, she set out to write a magazine story on them and the sharks they live amongst. Little did she know then that the islands, the biologists and above all the Great Whites would come to obsess her, forcing her back again and again to document an extraordinary community of men and animals.



### Ballad of the Whiskey Robber

Julian RUBINSTEIN 304pp Pb \$24.95

Attila Ambrus was a gentleman thief from Transylvania, a terrible professional hockey goalkeeper - and preferred women in leopard-skin hot pants. During the 1990s, while playing for the biggest hockey team in Budapest, he took up bank robbery to make ends meet. Arrayed against him was perhaps the most incompetent team of crime investigators the Eastern Bloc had ever seen: a robbery chief who had learned how to be a detective by watching dubbed Columbo episodes, a forensics officer who wore top hat and tails on the job, and a driver so inept he was known only by a Hungarian word that translates to "Mound of Ass-Head". This is the completely bizarre and hysterical story of the crime spree that made a nobody into a somebody, and told a forlorn nation that sometimes the brightest stars come from the blackest holes.

## Literati

### Australian Contemporary Literary Figures Discuss Fear, Frustrations and Fame

James PHELAN 352pp Tp \$29.95

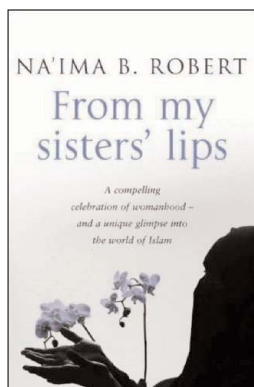
Comprising candid interviews and equally candid photographs, this book looks at a host of Australian authors and their feelings about life after publication. It takes the reader to the desks and minds of their favourite contemporary writers. Willing to open up about their fears, critics, fans, frustrations and the dreaded writer's block are authors including Carmel Bird, Sonja Hartnett, Kathryn Fox, Matthew Reilly, John Birmingham, Robert Drewe and many others.

## From My Sisters' Lips

Na'ima ROBERT 359pp Tp \$32.95

When Na'ima abandoned her Western lifestyle and embraced Islam six years ago, it was not a decision taken lightly. Yet soon after she took the first tentative steps towards covering, she felt empowered; no longer judged on physical appearance alone, no longer seeking the approval to feel beautiful - or using her looks to wield power over men - the experience affected her greatly. Before long, she grew in confidence and courage.

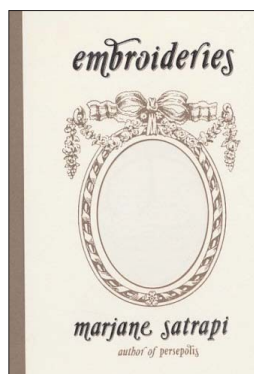
"Something just clicked. I thought, good, don't look; don't compare me with your latest squeeze, don't try and guess my measurements - my body is my own business!" As Na'ima recounts the compelling story of her conversion to Islam, she also offers firsthand accounts of just some of the extraordinary Muslim women she has come to know in recent years - women like herself who have chosen to live behind the veil. What emerges is a vivid and intimate portrait of a sisterhood; as they speak candidly and with conviction on a diverse range of subjects ranging from marriage to motherhood, stereotypes, submission and self-image, we hear the strong, proud voices of those who are seldom heard.



## Embroideries

Marjane SATRAPI 144pp Hb \$39.95

From the author of the acclaimed comic-strip autobiography *Persepolis* (Hb \$39.95) comes this comic book for grown-ups, a gloriously entertaining and revealing look into the sex lives of Iranian women. Satrapi gathers together many of the women in her life - her beloved grandmother, her mother, an eccentric aunt, their friends and neighbours - for an afternoon of tea-drinking and talking. Unsurprisingly, the subjects turn to love, sex and the vagaries of Iranian men. As the afternoon progresses, these colourful women share their secrets about, among other things: how to fake your virginity, how to escape the husband your family has chosen for you, how to enjoy the miracles of plastic surgery and how to take advantage of being someone's mistress. We also witness tearful confessions and heavy-hearted tales of regret and betrayal, of unhappy marriages and of young women forced, or choosing to, marry for all the wrong reasons. And though love is mostly to blame, there's no missing the message that much of their suffering is due to a culture that prizes men above women and makes a woman's worth dependent on her virginity.

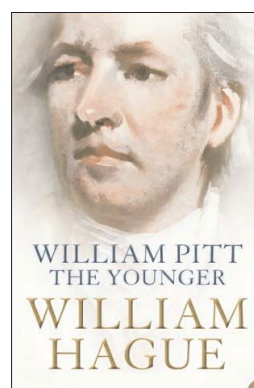


## William Pitt the Younger

### A Biography

William HAGUE 416pp Tp \$24.95

The younger William Pitt, known as the 'schoolboy', began his days as Prime Minister in 1783 deeply underestimated and completely beleaguered. Yet he annihilated his opponents in the General Election the following year and dominated the governing of Britain for 22 years, nearly 19 of them as Prime Minister. No British politician since then has exercised such supremacy for so long. Pitt presided over dramatic changes in the country's finances and trade, brought about the union with Ireland, but was ultimately consumed by the years of debilitating war with France. Domestic crises included unrest in Ireland, deep division in the royal family, the madness of the King and a full-scale naval mutiny. He enjoyed huge success, yet died at the nadir of his fortunes, struggling to maintain a government beset by a thin majority at home and military disaster abroad. He worked, worried and drank himself to death. Finally his story is told with the drama, wit and authority it deserves.

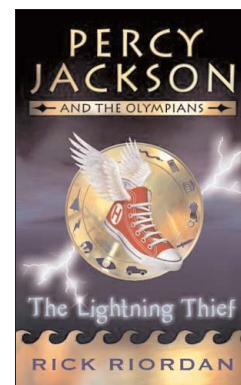


## Percy Jackson and the Olympians

### The Lightning Thief

Rick RIORDAN 375pp Pb \$19.95

Percy Jackson is 12, has boarded at - and been expelled from - 6 different schools, suffers ADHD and dyslexia, and has the occasional weird experience. As it turns out, this is because of his father, whom he never knew - but is about to. Dad happens to be a Greek god. Being immortal, the gods have never died, just retreated a little, although old habits die hard and they still interfere in the lives of mortals from time to time. Percy finds himself in plenty of trouble, but with the help of a satyr and a daughter of Athena, sets off on a quest to avert a major catastrophe which threatens to be worse than Troy. This is a wonderful novel, full of fun and action and mixing myth with contemporary references (a little like the *Artemis Fowl* stories) with a very likeable protagonist. Highly recommended - and not just for kids!



## Monster

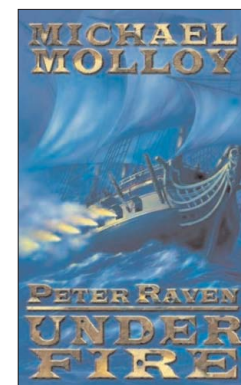
Angela McALLISTER & Charlotte MIDDLETON 32pp Hb \$16.95

Jackson wants a pet - something wild and exciting - so he is quite disappointed when Dad gets him a hamster. He tries to teach 'Monster' how to be more interesting, but gradually loses interest. It takes a nicely realised bit of role reversal for Jackson to learn that having a pet means being responsible. Clear and witty illustrations, and a gentle lesson being imparted, make this charming book suitable for ages 4-7.

## Peter Raven Under Fire

Michael MOLLOY 463pp Pb \$16.95

Historical fiction aimed at boys seems to be a vanishing art these days, so it is quite exciting to be able to recommend this book! Peter Raven, 13, joins the *HMS Torren* as midshipman in autumn, 1800. He finds himself linked to the mysterious Commodore Beaumont, who is engaged on some very delicate business - spying. Before long Peter is swept up into a world of intrigue, danger, adventure and war. With the help of a feisty American girl, the British are able to thwart one of Napoleon's more interesting plots. Full of fine period detail, fast-paced and enthralling, this is perfect for ages 11-14.



## Nicholas

Rene GOSCINNY & Jean-Jacques SEMPE 128pp Hb \$29.95

Yes, the Goscinny of Asterix fame! This has been a French classic bestseller since it was first published in 1959. Nicholas is full of energy, often getting into trouble, along with his friends. Irrepressibly delightful, full of old-fashioned fun, which has not dated, and with a fresh and immediate narrative style. Recommended for mid to upper primary ages.

## One More Sheep

Mij KELLY & Russell AYTO

32pp Pb \$14.95

This is a lot of fun, and reads out loud beautifully! Sam owns 10 sheep and he is very careful to gather them in safely every night, but he always has a problem counting them. By the time he gets to four, he's asleep! What happens when a wily wolf tries to fool Sam by disguising himself as a sheep? The sheep have to come up with a way to alert Sam. A really enjoyable book for the pre-schooler in your life.



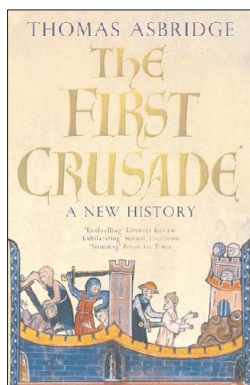


## The First Crusade

### A New History

Thomas ASBRIDGE 432pp Pb \$26.95

900 years ago, the Pope initiated one of the most controversial episodes in Christian history by stating that God wanted European knights to wage a fierce and bloody war against Islam and recapture Jerusalem. Thus was the First Crusade born. Its story is compelling, capable of inspiring awe through tales of bold adventure, and revulsion through excesses of violence and barbarity, while at the same time providing us with significant insights into medieval society, morality and mentality. Asbridge re-creates this fascinating period of history in a stunning narrative.

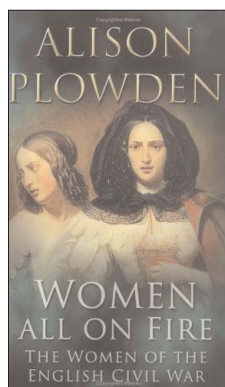


## Women All on Fire

### The Women of the English Civil War

Alison PLOWDEN 240pp Pb \$22.95

"Our women are all on fire, striving through a gallant emulation to outdoe our men and will make good our yielding walls or lose their lives" wrote a chronicler of the siege of Chester in 1645. In the war between king and parliament, the women of England played an active part. Some displayed courage so far above their sex as to surprise and disconcert their men. The Royalists included Queen Henrietta, who went abroad to raise money for the cause, and Mary Bankes, who held Corfe Castle for the king with her daughters, heaving stones and hot embers over the battlements at the attacking Roundheads. On the opposing side, Lady Brillia Harley guarded Brampton Bryan Castle in Herefordshire against the Royalists and Anne Fairfax, wife of Cromwell's northern general, who was taken prisoner by the Duke of Newcastle's troops after Adwalton Moor. Also featured are the oyster wenches of London, who laboured beside the men digging trenches around the City, helping prisoners to escape.



## Viking Empires

Angelo FORTE et al

447pp Hb \$75.00

This is a definitive new history of 500 years of Viking civilisation and the first study of the global implications of the expansion, integration and reorientation of the Viking World. Offering an assessment of Scandinavian society before the 790s, the book traces the political, military, cultural and religious history of the Viking Age from Iceland to the Baltic States. The authors show that it is not possible to understand the history of the Norman Conquest, the successes of David I of Scotland or the relationship between the Holy Roman Empire and the Papacy without considering the impact of the history of Scandinavia.

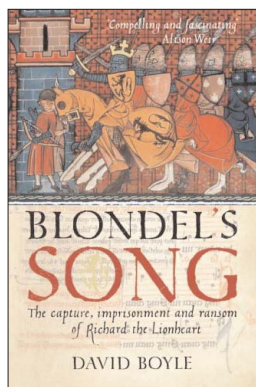
## Blondel's Song

### The Capture, Imprisonment and Ransom of Richard the Lionheart

David BOYLE 400pp Hb \$45.00

This new history, recommended by Alison Weir, tells the tale of one of the most peculiar incidents of medieval history. It encompasses the background to the real Blondel and his fellow troubadours, as well as the courts of love, the Holy Grail and the emergence of gothic cathedrals like Notre Dame and Chartres. It was a unique moment of tolerance in the West when Europe shared a language, and a new culture of music, romance and chivalry. Boyle retraces and rediscovers Richard's secret journey across the Alps in winter, and uncovers the real story of the arrest of Europe's most powerful king, 2,000 miles from home. For the first time, we come to understand the real meaning of the legend of Blondel, Richard's faithful minstrel, and his journey across central Europe singing under castle towers until he finds the missing king.

due August

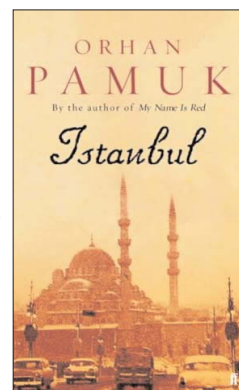


## Istanbul

Orhan PAMUK

288pp Hb \$45.00

"From a very young age, I knew I was not alone: somewhere in the streets of Istanbul, in a house resembling ours, there lived another Orhan so much like me that he could pass for my twin, even my double..." For Orhan the day-dreaming child, the heart of the great teeming city of Istanbul was the building known as Pamuk Apartments, where each branch of his large and extended family occupied its own separate floor. Now an award-winning novelist, Pamuk, with his unique sense of history and extraordinary gift for narrative, revisits his own family's secrets and idiosyncracies, discovering what made them typical of their time and place. And as he companionably guides us through Istanbul's monuments and lost paradises, its dilapidated Ottoman villas, back streets and waterways, he introduces the writers, artists, columnists and mad popular historians who have tracked Istanbul through 150 years of 'modernisation'. What begins as a portrait of the artist as a young man becomes a portrait of the artist as a city.



## The Rattlesnake

### A Voyage of Discovery to the Coral Sea

Jordan GOODMAN

394pp Hb \$49.95

Australia's spectacular Great Barrier Reef was a graveyard for shipping. *HMS Rattlesnake*, an ageing British warship, was commissioned in 1846 to survey this magnificent 'Coral Sea' and to produce the first detailed chart of the New Guinea coast. Every reef, every shoal, every rock hazard has to be located and mapped with extreme accuracy. At stake was the pre-eminence of British sea power - and the ambitions of those on board. If all went well, Stanley, the ship's brilliant captain, could expect a top job in the Admiralty; MacGillivray, the gifted naturalist, would be the world's expert on the fauna of Australia and the unknown New Guinea; and Thomas Huxley (destined to become the most famous proponent of evolutionary theory after Darwin, and grandfather of Aldous Huxley), the ambitious young surgeon, could abandon the dreary routine of the naval service for the excitement of the new world of science. But a series of highly dramatic events and encounters ensures that, by the time the *Rattlesnake* finally returns to England, the glorious dreams of at least some of her crew have met with tragedy...

## The Plot

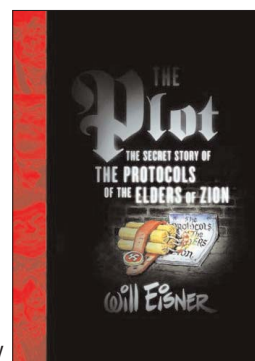
### The Secret Story of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion

Will EISNER

117pp Hb \$30.95

This is Eisner's final work, the subject of enduring personal concern and a decades-long examination of the historical fabrication widely credited as the source of modern day anti-Semitic propaganda; the 19th century forgery, Protocols of the Elders of Zion. With its origins in several generations of libel and plagiarism, hatched as an anti-Semitic plot by the tsar's secret police to deflect widespread criticism of the government, it was first published in 1905 and succeeded wildly beyond the crudely propagandistic ambitions of its originators. Indeed, the lie became an internationally accepted truth not only amongst those who should have known better (Winston Churchill springs to mind), but amongst the gullible and the deliberately malicious, the stupid and the wilfully ignorant like David Irving. As the internationally renowned godfather of the graphic novel, Eisner's efforts are startlingly original. This graphic novel can be read on several levels, all of them disturbing. He hoped to reach the audiences most susceptible to anti-Semitic, bigoted propaganda by using a medium they were likely to understand. I doubt he has changed the mind of a single neo-Nazi piece of garbage masquerading as a human being, but in reiterating so cleverly this twisted lie from the past, he continues in the optimistic tradition of those who hope that future generations will learn from the past.

Cara

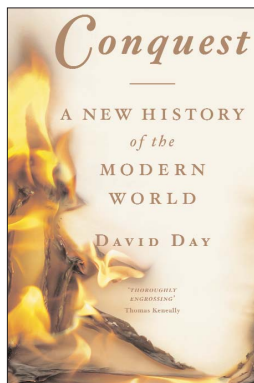


## Conquest

### A New History of the Modern World

David DAY 352pp Tp \$35.00

This groundbreaking new book challenges the context of Australian history, as well as the history of the rest of the world. In this follow-up to his highly acclaimed book, **Claiming a Continent** (now in Pb \$24.95), Day questions popular ideas about society and re-examines history ranging from Cortes in the 16th century to Hitler in the 20th century. He explores the prolonged and bloody process that societies use to make other nations' land their own. Whether it is the English in Australia or the Normans in England, the Spanish in Mexico or the Muslims in Spain, the Japanese in Korea or the Chinese in Tibet, the process of claiming conquered lands has shaped the nature of these societies, as well as the nature of the present world. Day also examines the way societies across the world have secured their claims of ownership on lands occupied by other people.

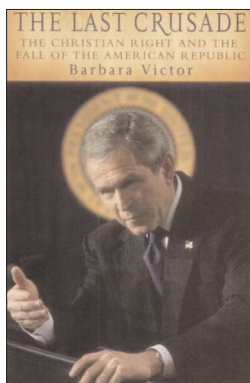


## The Last Crusade

### Religion and the Politics of Misdirection

Barbara VICTOR 288pp Pb \$27.95

There are 80 million born-again Christians of voting age in the USA, including George W Bush. Jesus Christ is a personal friend of every one of them and He wants them to vote Republican. Since the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980, the Evangelical Christians have constituted one of the USA's most powerful interest groups. Their money and energy have helped to drive a socially conservative agenda to the centre of American national life and they have begun to play an important role in America's foreign policy. Despite a history of robust anti-Semitism, they have built a powerful alliance with the Israeli right. From financial aid to Jewish settlements in the Occupied Territories to the religious rhetoric of the War on Terror, evangelical leaders are blithely creating a world fit for Apocalypse. Their brand of Christianity is the fastest-growing social movement in the slums of Africa and Latin America. This book should be read by anyone who cares where Australia is headed while holding hands with the USA.



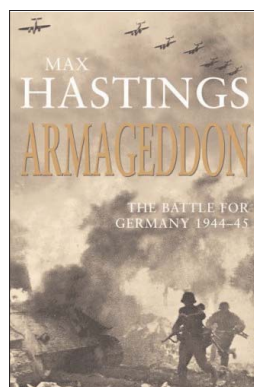
Shelley

## Armageddon

### The Battle for Germany 1944-45

Max HASTINGS 500pp Pb \$25.00

In this superb book, the climax of the Second World War gets the treatment it deserves. From the epic battles of the great armies to the brave and often futile attempts to survive by the many non-combatants, it's all here. While well-known episodes like Arnhem and the Battle of the Bulge are covered, the revelations for me were the extraordinary sacrifices made by the Red Army in its battles with the Germans and the incredible suffering of the Dutch people under Nazi occupation, as well as the almost incomprehensible devastation inflicted by the Soviet advance through East Prussia. The author does an outstanding job of chronicling these events and brings to life the people who experienced them. It's as good as Beevor at his best.



Dave

## Freemasons

### Inside the World's Oldest Secret Society

H Paul JEFFERS 237pp Tp \$29.95

Jeffers delves into Masonic history to reveal the surprising and controversial truth behind this ancient and secretive order, from its mystery-shrouded origins in medieval Europe through to its rise in America, where Benjamin Franklin founded the first lodge. Today, some 4 to 5 million Freemasons worldwide pledge to live their lives in accordance with the principles of morality, charity and loyalty. In this fascinating guide that explores the myths and realities of Freemasonry, the veil of secrecy is finally lifted.

## The Cardinal's Hat

### Money, Ambition and Housekeeping in a Renaissance Court

Mary HOLLINGSWORTH 286pp Pb \$26.95

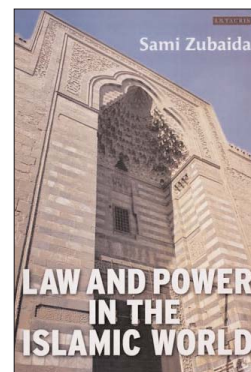
Ippolito d'Este was the second son of Lucretia Borgia and Alfonso d'Este. Although he became Archbishop of Milan at the age of nine and was independently wealthy by the time he was 25, he still needed to increase his wealth and prestige. The best way was to become a Cardinal, with a chance of the papal throne in the future. To that end, Ippolito formed an alliance with Francis I of France (his oldest brother's brother-in-law) and entered wholeheartedly into the role of courtier. As this involved hunting, gambling and lavish displays of sumptuous finery, Ippolito was in his element. Even better for us, he employed a number of conscientious servants, who kept painstakingly detailed ledgers and household accounts, many of which were preserved in archives in Modena. Hollingsworth draws on these papers to give a vivid and sparkling account of 16th century life as lived by a Renaissance prince, detailing both the magnificent and the mundane.

Lindy

## Law and Power in the Islamic World

Sami ZUBAIDA 248pp Tp \$43.00

Islamic law (the Shari'a) and its application is a central issue in contemporary Islamic politics and culture. Starting from modern concerns, this book examines the origins and evolution of the Shari'a and the corpus of texts, concepts and practices in which it has been enshrined. The author considers key historical episodes of political accommodations and contests between scholars and sultans. Drawing on modern examples, mainly from Egypt and Iran, he explores how the Shari'a has evolved and mutated to accommodate the workings of a modern state. This is an original and significant contribution to the debates surrounding Islam and ideas of modernity.

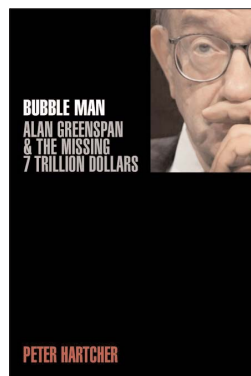


## Bubble Man

### Alan Greenspan & the Missing 7 Trillion Dollars

Peter HARTCHER 201pp Tp \$27.95

In the second half of the 1990s, American stock-owners watched the value of their shares grow by \$10 trillion. In the time since, more than \$7 trillion of that has evaporated. By late 2002, mutual funds as a whole had lost every dollar of stockmarket gains since the great Wall Street run-up started in 1996. Curiously, polling in America shows that no one blames the one man most directly responsible. It apparently does not occur to them that it could be Alan Greenspan, the chairman of America's Federal Reserve Bank. The tale of how Greenspan enabled the Great American Bubble, one of the biggest speculative frenzies in history, and yet manages to evade blame is an extraordinary story. Hartcher, political and international editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald*, provides a fascinating account of what has proved to be the most financially expensive event in American history. Along the way, serious questions are posed about the Federal Reserve and the prevailing orthodoxy on how national economies should be managed.



## Boudica

### Iron Age Warrior Queen

Richard HINGLEY & Christina UNWIN 293pp Hb \$59.95

Boadicea, or Boudica, queen of the Iceni, led a famous revolt against Roman rule in Britain in AD 61, sacking London, Colchester and St Albans and throwing the province into chaos. Although then defeated by the governor, Suetonius Paulinus, her rebellion sent a shock wave across the empire. Who was this woman who defied Rome? This book is an account of what we know about the real woman from classical literature and the archaeological evidence.

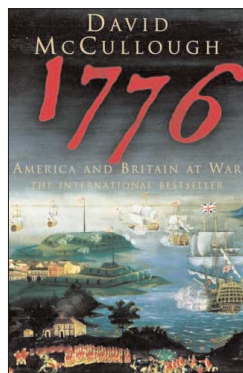


1776

**America and Britain at War**

David McCULLOUGH

368pp Hb \$55.00



McCullough was inspired to write this book because in **John Adams** (Pb \$29.95), the fighting was happening offstage. This is the story of how a poorly trained, ill-equipped volunteer army fought against the far superior British (and Hessian) forces between the siege of Boston and the battle of Princeton; this time the events at Philadelphia and in London are offstage, but not forgotten. The account of George III's opening of Parliament in October 1775, and the debate that followed, brilliantly set the scene for the struggle that was to follow against "the unhappy and deluded multitude" who had failed to see the light and recognise "that to be a subject of Great Britain, with all its consequences, is to be the freest member of any civil society in the known world". The Continental Congress' vote on 2 July 1776 to "dissolve the connection" with Great Britain raised the stakes for both sides, for the delegates had committed treason and embarked on a course from which there could be no turning back.

The military events of 1776 are well known: the siege, then occupation, of Boston in March, the Battle of Brooklyn in late August and Washington's daring escape across the river at night to New York, the retreat to Harlem Heights and then across New Jersey, the seeming inevitability of defeat, then the Christmas night attack across the Delaware River on Trenton and a further victorious clash with the Redcoats at Princeton on 2 January 1777.

**1776** is a story told through the lives of the men and women who experienced the conflict. We read of the very wealthy, impeccably uniformed, six-foot-two, insecure George Washington, who had only contempt for the "exceedingly dirty and nasty" New Englanders and who in times of crisis took time out to write detailed instructions to his overseer about renovations to be made at Mount Vernon. John Adams' prophesy when Washington was appointed commander-in-chief - that he would become "one of the most important characters in the world" - was to be borne out.

We read about the 33-year-old Quaker foundryman Nathanael Greene, the youngest general officer in the American army, who had a stiff right leg, a limp and was prone to occasional attacks of asthma. "What he knew of warfare and military command came almost entirely from books." The gregarious, "very fat, but very active", 25-year-old Boston bookseller Colonel Henry Knox, whose knowledge of gunnery and tactics, too, came from books, and who retrieved 58 mortars and cannon from far-off Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain and lugged them by boat and sled through snow and blizzards back to Boston to help end the siege.

There is the soldier leaving for home lugging a cannonball - to give to his mother, he explained, to pound mustard seed - and the Philadelphia artist Charles Willson Peale, who on joining Washington's army in December saw amongst the retreating army a wretched man with almost no clothes. "He was in an old dirty blanket jacket, his beard long, and his face so full of sores that he could not clean it." Peale had not recognised his brother James.

McCullough does not neglect the British and the colonial Loyalists, who are also described in rich detail. The British Commander General William Howe, a professional soldier from the time he finished school at Eton, was "an easygoing, affable man who had never been averse to taking his pleasures where he could". He enjoyed long dinners, faro, and the company of the wife of a prominent Loyalist he had hired to run the commissary for rebel prisoners in Boston. The elderly Reverend Henry Caner, rector of King's Chapel, who when he fled Boston with the British, had to leave behind, among other items, pictures of the King and Queen "under glass with rich frames", 1,000 books, a barn, a cow and a calf.

McCullough tells us that "The year 1776, celebrated as the birth year of the nation and for the signing of the Declaration of Independence, was for those who carried the fight for independence forward a year of all-too-few victories, of sustained suffering, disease, hunger, desertion, cowardice, disillusionment, defeat, terrible discouragement, and fear, as they would never forget, but also of phenomenal courage and bedrock devotion to country, and that, too, they would never forget."

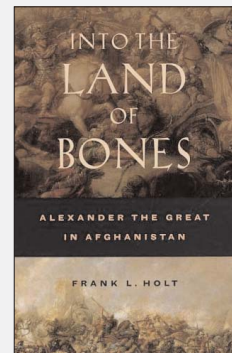
**1776**, McCullough's account of that year, is brilliant.

*Philip Selth*

**Gilles Deleuze: An Introduction** (196pp Pb \$49.95) by Todd May offers a readable and compelling introduction to the work of one of the 20th century's most important and elusive thinkers. The author explains how Deleuze offers a view of the cosmos as a living thing that provides ways of conducting our lives that we may not have dreamed of.

Fred Halliday's **The Middle East in International Relations: Power, Politics and Ideology** (386pp Pb \$49.95) has been composed as an introduction to the subject for students, general readers and those coming to the field for the first time, with the key objective of setting the Middle East within the broader context of contemporary international relations.

**Into the Land of Bones** (232pp Hb \$54.00) by Frank Holt is the fullest narrative available in English of Alexander The Great's campaigns in Afghanistan. Recounting the plight of the most powerful leader of the time as he led the most sophisticated army of its day into the treacherous world of tribal warlords, the author describes those gruelling campaigns and looks at the fascinating parallels with more recent attempts to invade Afghanistan.



In **Poverty Wars: Reconnecting Research with Reality** (172pp Pb \$29.95), Peter Saunders argues that, as a nation, Australia can afford to eliminate financial poverty. The fact that we don't do so is a matter of choice, not affordability - as the experience of other countries demonstrates.

Based on over 250 interviews with people living and working in three of Australia's most disadvantaged areas, **The Lowest Rung** (222pp Pb) by Mark Peel is a fascinating and moving portrait of the people who are suffering in a more divided and less egalitarian Australian society. Now available at the reduced price of \$29.95.

**Come with Daddy: A Study of Child Murder-Suicide After Separation** (179pp Pb \$34.95) by Carolyn Harris Johnson, examines the tragic crime of filicide, the murder-suicide of children and a parent in the context of a dispute over custody or access. The trauma of this offence reverberates through families, communities and across generations, causing mental and physical illness and social dysfunction.

Richard White's **On Holidays: A History of Getting Away in Australia** (186pp Pb \$32.95) traces just what has happened to holidays in Australia. Is the Australian holiday we have known for more than a century in danger of slipping away without anyone noticing?

There is perhaps no greater political challenge today than trying to win the war against terror without losing our democratic souls. In **The Lesser Evil** (224pp Pb \$29.95), Michael Ignatieff confronts this challenge head-on and shows how the most potent response to terror has been force, decisive and direct, yet restrained.

The third edition of Damien Kingsbury's **The Politics of Indonesia** (392pp Pb \$65.00) has just been published. It is the only book to provide a complete analysis of Indonesian politics, from the declaration of independence until the election of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in late 2004.

**Fundamentalism: The Search for Meaning** (272pp Pb \$29.95) by Malise Ruthven exposes the nature of both religious and secular fundamentalism worldwide and explores its many forms. She charts the development of various fundamentalist movements from the 1920s in America to the rise of fundamentalist groups in the Middle East in the early 21st century and investigates the many different forms of fundamentalist belief, and the political and terrorist activities that often result.

**Why Globalization Works** (416pp Pb \$39.95) by Martin Wolf explains how globalisation works, critiques the charges against it, argues that the biggest obstacle to global economic progress has been the failure not of the market but of governments, and offers a realistic scenario for economic internationalism in the post-9/11 age.

*Dave*

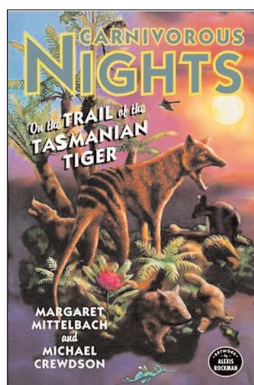
## Carnivorous Nights

On the Trail of the Tasmanian Tiger

Margaret MITTELBACH & Michael CREWDSON

336pp Tp \$32.95

Nature writers Mittelbach and Crewdson fell in love with a taxidermy specimen that they discovered while doing research at the American Museum of Natural History. Their friend, artist Alexis Rockman, grew up roaming the halls of the same museum and also loved the thylacine mount. When they discovered that people still claimed to have seen the Tasmanian tiger, and that scientists were attempting to clone one, the trio decided they needed to go to Tasmania and look for them in the wild. The result is a wonderful romp, part science and part Bill Bryson, as authors and artist visit museums, studying thylacine remains. Rockman's luminous illustrations of the thylacines and other native wildlife illuminate this marvellous search for an elusive, charismatic animal. *due August*



## Seven Deadly Colours

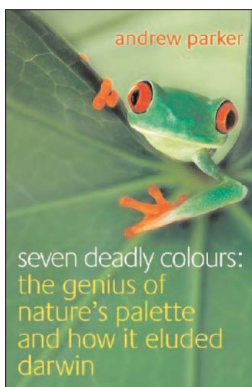
The Genius of Nature's Palette and How it Eluded Darwin

Andrew PARKER

661pp Tp \$34.95

"To suppose that the eye...should have formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree" - Charles Darwin, **The Origin of Species** (Pb \$15.95). The eye's 'perfection', he found, was the one problem he could not resolve with his theory of evolution by natural selection. No intermediate stages between a non-eye and a working eye seemed possible. But was he right?

Taking the colours of the spectrum as his keys to the natural world, Parker shows us that Darwin in fact had no reason to worry, and that Nature's palette is a far more miraculous thing than we had previously imagined. With vivid and fascinating examples of how colour has affected flora and fauna in different environments across the globe, this book not only shows the endless wonder of the natural world, but also extends our understanding of evolution itself.



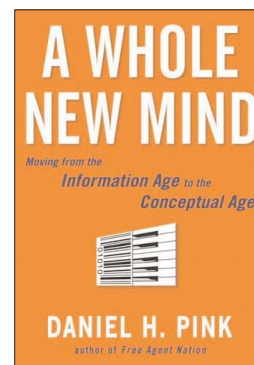
## A Whole New Mind

Moving from the Information Age to the Conceptual Age

Daniel PINK

272pp Tp \$29.95

The era of 'left brain' dominance, with its emphasis on logical, linear, analytical and computer-like thinking, is on the way out. We are entering a new world in which 'right brain' qualities - inventiveness, empathy, meaning - will dominate. A stimulating wake-up call for the brain, this book urges us to re-examine our lives: how we think, how we feel and why we do what we do.



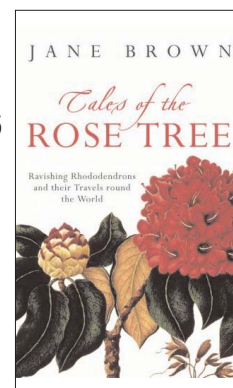
## Tales of the Rose Tree

Ravishing Rhododendrons and Their Travels Around the World

Jane BROWN

308pp Tp \$24.95

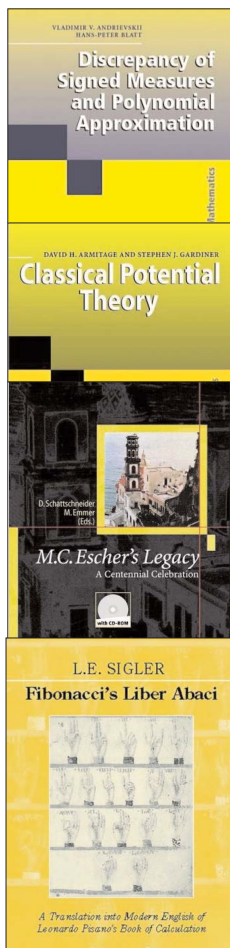
From the giant, long-lived Rhododendron Falconeri, with its peeling cinnamon bark on sculptured trunks to the delicate potted azalea on the garden patio, almost everyone has a rhododendron within reach of their daily lives. 200 years ago, the rhododendron was dragged to Britain from the dizzying heights of its natural habitat in the Sino-Himalayas by avaricious collectors. Some of the species mutated; others proved hardy and easy to hybridise. Brown uncovers the rhododendron's story. The Aztecs favoured it for their pleasure gardens (although the Jesuits believed they discovered it); the Chinese use it in medicines; mariners used it as ballast cargo; it has excited royal passions (Edward, Prince of Wales, surrounded himself with them at Virginia Water in the 1920s) and been the source of personal feuds (in the Rhododendron Society). What is the rhododendron? The epitome of bad taste, the scourge of conservationists or a majestic and ancient beauty forced to exist out of its natural habitat?



## SPRINGER YELLOW SALE

Look out for the following Springer Verlag Hardback titles with the distinctive yellow covers in the Mathematics and Science sections! The following titles are all drastically reduced this month:

	was	now
<b>Discrepancy of Signed Measures and Polynomial Approximation</b> by V Andrievskii & H Blatt	\$169.95	\$89.95
<b>Classical Potential Theory</b> by D Armitage & S Gardiner	\$209.95	\$109.95
<b>Dynamical Systems: Symplectic Geometry and its Applications: Vol 4</b> edited by V Arnol'd & S P Novikov	\$184.95	\$94.95
<b>Dynamical Systems: Integrable Systems: Nonholonomic Dynamical Systems: Vol 7</b> edited by V Arnol'd	\$206.95	\$98.95
<b>Dynamical Systems: Singularity Theory II Applications: Vol 8</b> edited by V Arnol'd	\$206.95	\$98.95
<b>Completeness and Reduction in Algebraic Complexity Theory</b> by P Burgisser	\$171.95	\$89.95
<b>Iterative Methods for Queuing and Manufacturing Systems</b> by Wai Ching	\$166.95	\$81.95
<b>Hyberbolic Conservation Laws in Continuum Physics</b> by C Dafermos	\$216.95	\$104.95
<b>Visual Explorations in Finance: With Self-organising Maps</b> edited by Guido Deboeck & Teuvo Kohonen	\$226.95	\$109.95
<b>Representations of Finite-Dimensional Algebras</b> by P Gabriel	\$136.95	\$62.95
<b>Sieves in Number Theory</b> by G Greaves	\$271.95	\$129.95
<b>Riemannian Geometry and Geometric Analysis</b> by J Jost	\$94.95	\$46.95
<b>Combinatorial Optimization: Theory and Algorithms</b> by B Korte & J Vygen	\$94.95	\$46.95
<b>Stochastic Interacting Systems: Contact, Voter and Exclusion Processes</b> by T Liggett	\$239.95	\$114.95
<b>Kleinian Groups</b> by Bernard Maskit	\$282.95	\$134.95
<b>Geometric Discrepancy: An Illustrated Guide: Vol 18</b> by Jiri Matousek	\$216.95	\$104.95
<b>Two Millennia of Mathematics: From Archimedes to Gauss</b> by G Phillips	\$146.95	\$72.95
<b>High-Dimensional Knot Theory: Algebraic Surgery in Codimension: Vol 2</b> by A Ranicki	\$274.95	\$124.95
<b>M C Escher's Legacy: A Centennial Celebration</b> edited by M Emmer	\$174.95	\$89.95
<b>Fibonacci's "Liber Abaci": A Translation into Modern English of Leonardo Pisano's Book of Calculation</b> by Laurence Sigler	\$114.95	\$69.95
<b>Octonions, Jordan Algebras, and Exceptional Groups</b> by T Springer	\$185.95	\$82.95
<b>Hardy Spaces on the Euclidean Space</b> by A Uchiyama	\$212.95	\$104.95
<b>Transformation of Measure on Wiener Space</b> by S Ustunel & Moshe Zakai	\$226.95	\$104.95
<b>Diophantine Approximation on Linear Algebraic Groups:</b>		
<b>Transcendence Properties of the Exponential Function in Several Variables</b> by Michel Waldschmidt	\$222.95	\$104.95
<b>Mathematical Conversations: Selections from the Mathematical Intelligencer</b> by Robin Wilson & Jeremy Gray	\$181.95	\$82.95





**Encyclopedia of the Oceans** (256pp Hb \$79.95) by Dorrik Stow is structured in two parts, dealing with the physical nature of oceans and the evolution and distribution of marine life, covering all the major fields of oceanographic research. Its accessible treatment offers a wealth of up-to-date information on topics ranging from oceanic ridge formation and hydrothermal vents, to the rhythm and patterns of tides, currents and weather systems, to the astonishing diversity and complex interactions of marine communities.

Susan Blackmore's **Consciousness: A Very Short Introduction** (146pp Pb \$22.95) is an excellent concise survey of what we know about consciousness and the many things we don't.

**Storm Warning** (285pp Hb \$39.95) by Pauline Halford tells of the dramatic, controversial and tragic events which led to the development of the daily weather forecast.

In **The Birth of the Mind** (278pp Pb \$32.95), cognitive scientist Gary Marcus irrevocably alters the nature vs nurture debate by linking the findings of the Human Genome Project to the development of the brain. Synthesising the latest research by other scientists with his own original findings on child development, he brilliantly explains how our genes create our brains.

**Electronic Brains** (274pp Hb \$49.95) by Mike Hally tells the stories of the computers built in the early days of computing, many of which are long-forgotten, such as the CSIRO's CSIRAC and the University of Sydney's SILLIAC.

For your chance to vote in the *Eureka Prizes People's Choice Award*, of which Abbey's is a co-sponsor, please log on to [www.amonline.net.au/eureka/peoples\\_choice](http://www.amonline.net.au/eureka/peoples_choice).

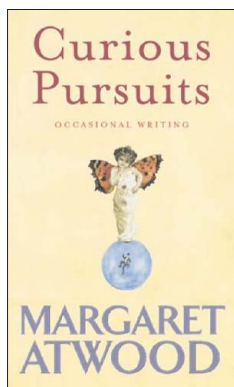
Dave

## Miscellaneous

### Curious Pursuits Occasional Writing

Margaret ATWOOD 432pp Hb \$45.00

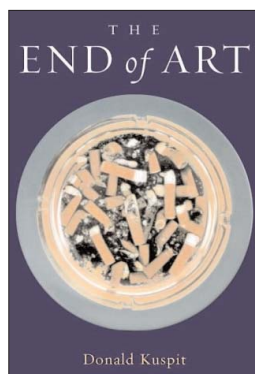
"Whenever I resolve to write less and do something healthful instead, like ice dancing, some honey-tongued editor is sure to call me up and make me an offer I can't refuse. So in some ways this book is simply the result of an under-developed ability to say no." Collected and published in the UK for the first time, here are essays and journalism from the brilliant novelist and poet. Ranging from book reviews of John Updike and Toni Morrison to an appreciation of Dashiell Hammet, an account of a journey in Afghanistan that sowed the seeds of *The Handmaid's Tale* (Pb \$19.95), passionate ecological writings and funny stories of her most embarrassing moments to deeply felt obituaries of some of her great friends and fellow writers: Angela Carter, Mordecai Richler, Carol Shields. This is an insightful, thoughtful and revealing record of the life and times - and writings - of Margaret Atwood from 1970 to the present.



### The End of Art

Donald KUSPIT 224pp Pb \$39.95

This book argues that art is over because it has lost its aesthetic import. Art has been replaced by "postart", a term invented by Alan Kaprow, as a new visual category that elevates the banal over the enigmatic, the scatological over the sacred, cleverness over creativity. Tracing the demise of aesthetic experience to the works and theory of Marcel Duchamp and Barnett Newman, the author argues that devaluation is inseparable from the entropic character of modern art, and that anti-aesthetic postmodern art is its final state. In contrast to modern art, which expressed the universal human unconscious, postmodern art degenerates into an expression of narrow ideological interests.



## Ripped and Torn

### Levi's, Latin America and the Blue Jean Dream

Amaranta WRIGHT 352pp Tp \$32.95

Wright was living in Miami when Levi's hired her to travel through Latin America, befriending teenagers and reporting back with details of their ideas, hopes, fears and aspirations. Initially, she saw the job as a means to travel around a continent she loved, but as time passed, the more sinister and divisive aspects of what she was being asked to do became apparent. Like the continent itself, she was in search of an identity, the realisation of which was constantly frustrated by the mechanics of corporate globalisation - its unspoken aim to reduce individuals to bullet points. This is a compellingly humane portrait of a continent in crisis - riddled with paradox, complexity, beauty and brutality. It is a book about the arrogance with which the West refers to 'developing' continents and the corporate world's overbearing desire to turn people into consumers. The methods employed to do this are simultaneously seductive and repellent as cultural confusion reigns when indigenous voices are silenced by the promises of inappropriately imposed dreams.



## Pronouncing Shakespeare

### The Globe Experiment

David CRYSTAL

188pp Hb \$34.95

How did Shakespeare's plays sound when they were originally performed? How can we know, and could the original pronunciation ever be recreated? For three days in June 2004, Shakespeare's Globe presented their production of *Romeo and Juliet* in original, Shakespearian pronunciation. In an unusual blend of autobiography, narrative and academic content, reflecting the unique nature of the experience, Crystal recounts the first attempt in over 50 years to mount a full-length Shakespeare play in original pronunciation. He begins by discussing the Globe theatre's approach to 'original practices', which has dealt with all aspects of Elizabethan stagecraft, except pronunciation. A large section is devoted to the nature of the Early Modern English sound system. There are reports of how the actors coped with the task of learning the pronunciation, how it affected their performances and how the audiences reacted.

## Leaning Towards Pisa

Sue HOWARD 288pp Tp \$32.95

Like so many women, Sue was an expert at juggling a growing tower of work with a shrinking slice of personal life until a stabbing pain in the middle of the night forces her to take stock. After emergency surgery, her doctor orders a reality check - and a long rest. When she is invited to share a house in Italy, she suddenly decides that, rather than just take a holiday, she'll quit her job for good and take a chance. It's a big decision. There's family, children, even grandchildren, and a relationship, but the lure of the great unknown proves too strong. Once she gets to Italy, the temptation to throw caution to the wind becomes even stronger and she accepts a job teaching English in Pisa, where she slowly but surely falls in love with a place where people know how to really live, where work is work and life is life, to be embraced with gusto every day.

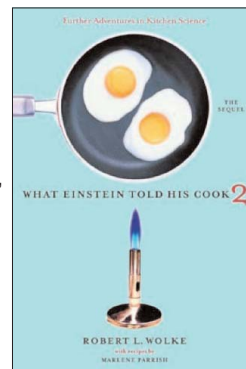


## What Einstein Told His Cook 2

### Further Adventures in the Kitchen

Robert WOLKE 384pp Hb \$39.95

Wolke continues to debunk myths and misconceptions about food and its preparation with reliable common sense. He has added a new feature, Sidebar Science, which details the chemical processes that underpin cooking. In the same plain language that was such a hit in his first book, *What Einstein Told His Cook* (Hb \$42.95), Wolke combines the clarity and wit of a scientist with the authority of a good teacher. His investigations into the science behind our foods, from farm or factory to our kitchens and dining rooms, make for an educational and enjoyable read.



## Love, Poverty and War

### Journeys and Essays

Christopher HITCHENS

480pp Hb \$45.00

In the first part of this book, Hitchens confronts the legacy of Kipling, Trotsky and Churchill, then celebrates the work of Joyce, Proust and Borges. This is followed by his journeys around America and his assessment of the US after the September 11 terrorist attacks. He concludes with a series of attacks on Michael Moore, David Irving, the cult of the Kennedys and includes reportage and analysis from Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Pakistan and Iraq. Several fairly contentious essays raised some eyebrows in their time, particularly those targeted at the likes of William Clinton, Mother Theresa, the Dalai Lama and Noam Chomsky, to name but a few. Deliberately provocative and always elegant in his ferocity, Hitchens is a tart and prickly pleasure of a read.

due August

Cara

## A Student's Introduction to English Grammar

Rodney HUDDLESTON & Geoffrey PULLUM

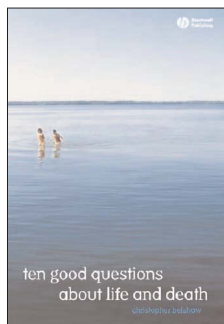
324pp Tp \$49.95

This groundbreaking undergraduate textbook on modern Standard English grammar is the first to be based on the revolutionary advances of the authors' previous work, **The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language** (Hb \$399.00). The analyses defended there are outlined here more briefly in an engagingly accessible and informal style. Errors of the older tradition of English grammar are noted and corrected, and the excesses of prescriptive usage manuals are firmly rebutted in specially highlighted notes that explain what older authorities have called 'incorrect' and show why those authorities are mistaken. This book is intended for students in colleges or universities who have little or no previous background in grammar, and presupposes no linguistics.

## Ten Good Questions About Life and Death

Christopher BELSHAW 176pp Pb \$27.95

What matters? Does life have meaning? Is life sacred? Is it bad to die? And can God and religion help? This book makes us think again about some of the most important issues we ever have to face. Drawing on examples from literature and film, as well as fictitious case studies, the author pulls these questions apart, considers how famous philosophers have approached them, and then offers solutions for further consideration. He avoids technicalities and jargon, ensuring that the book is accessible to readers with no prior knowledge of philosophy.



## This is My Best

### Great Writers Share Their Favourite Work

Kathy KEIRANAN & Retha POWERS (eds)

448pp Tp \$32.95

Inspired by an acclaimed collection published in 1942, the editors at the *Quality Paperback Book Club* invited American fiction writers, essayists, poets, playwrights and cartoonists to choose and comment on their best work. The result is a veritable Who's Who of contemporary literature and popular culture, including selections by Anne Tyler, Arthur Miller, Gary Trudeau, David Sedaris, Rita Dove, Tom Robbins, Ruth Reichl, T C Boyle, Mary Karr, John Updike and dozens more. Each selection is rewarding in itself, more still for the introductions in which the author explains his or her choice, shedding light on both the work and creative process.

## Pray for Me in Santiago

Theresa Burkhardt FELDER

288pp Pb \$26.95

This vivid memoir of adventure, chance encounters and unexpected pleasures will delight and inspire pilgrims, adventurers and armchair travellers alike. The route from St Jean de Port in France to Santiago de Compostela in Spain is the most popular pilgrimage in the world. Walked by pilgrims seeking spiritual transformation since the 14th century, today hundreds and thousands of modern-day pilgrims, art lovers, historians and hikers are retracing the road in search of their own life-changing experiences. Here is the story of Felder and her husband, who undertook the gruelling 800-kilometre trek through the spectacular countryside of northern Spain. In her compelling account, she interweaves their daily adventures with snippets of Spanish history, art, architecture and food, as well as stories of the other pilgrims they encounter along the way.

Cara

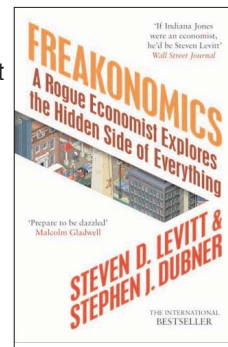
## Freakonomics

### A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything

Steven LEVITT & Stephen DUBNER

242pp Tp \$32.95

Modern life can be baffling and chaotic. Is there any way of making sense of it? The answer, according to the authors, lies in economics. Not ordinary economics, but 'freakonomics'. It is at the heart of everything we see and do and the subjects that bedevil us daily: from parenting to crime, sport to politics, fat to cheating, fear to traffic jams. The authors turn conventional economics on its head, stripping away the jargon and calculations of the 'experts' to explore the riddles of everyday life and examine topics such as: how chips are more likely to kill you than murder or a terrorist attack; why sportsmen cheat and how fraud can be spotted; why violent crime can be linked not to gun laws, policing or poverty, but to abortion; why a road is more efficient when everyone travels at 20mph; how the name you give your child can give them an advantage in later life; and what really causes obesity epidemics.



## Continuum Impacts

Buy an Impact title in August and go in the draw to win a surprise pack of 10 new and recent Philosophy titles, courtesy of Allen & Unwin. Second prize is a gift pack of Impact pens and T-shirts. Winner to be announced in October *Abbey's Advocate*.

<b>Aesthetic Theory</b> by Theodor Adorno	\$29.95
<b>Anti-Oedipus</b> by Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari	\$29.95
<b>Berlin Alexanderplatz</b> by Alfred Doblin	\$29.95
<b>Cinema 1</b> by Gilles Deleuze	\$29.95
<b>Cinema 2</b> by Gilles Deleuze	\$29.95
<b>The Conflict of Interpretations</b> by Paul Ricoeur	\$29.95
<b>Criticism and Truth</b> by Roland Barthes	\$21.95
<b>Deconstruction and Criticism</b> by Harold Bloom, Paul de Man, Jacques Derrida et al	\$24.95
<b>Desert Screen</b> by Paul Virilio	\$24.95
<b>Difference and Repetition</b> by Gilles Deleuze	\$29.95
<b>Discourse on Free Will</b> by Desiderius Erasmus & Martin Luther	\$24.95
<b>Dissemination</b> by Jacques Derrida	\$29.95
<b>The Doctrine of Reconciliation</b> by Karl Barth	\$26.95
<b>Eclipse of Reason</b> by Max Horkheimer	\$26.95
<b>Education for Critical Consciousness</b> by Paolo Friere	\$24.95
<b>The Essence of Human Freedom</b> by Martin Heidegger	\$29.95
<b>The Essence of Truth</b> by Martin Heidegger	\$29.95
<b>An Ethics of Sexual Difference</b> by Luce Irigaray	\$29.95
<b>Francis Bacon</b> by Gilles Deleuze	\$29.95
<b>God is Each New Moment</b> by Edward Schillebeeckx	\$26.95
<b>I and Thou</b> by Martin Buber	\$27.95
<b>Infinite Thought</b> by Alain Badiou	\$27.95
<b>Intensive Science &amp; Virtual Philosophy</b> by Manuel DeLanda	\$29.95
<b>An Introduction to Philosophy</b> by Jacques Maritain	\$27.95
<b>Libidinal Economy</b> by Jean Francois Lyotard	\$29.95
<b>Literature, Politics and Culture in Postwar Britain</b> by Alan Sinfield	\$29.95
<b>The Logic of Sense</b> by Gilles Deleuze	\$29.95
<b>Marx's Concept of Man</b> by Erich Fromm	\$26.95
<b>Moral Man and Immoral Society</b> by Reinhold Niebuhr	\$29.95
<b>The New Poetic</b> by C K Stead	\$29.95
<b>Nietzsche and the Vicious Circle</b> by Pierre Klossowski	\$29.95
<b>On Nietzsche</b> by Georges Bataille	\$29.95
<b>The Pedagogy of Hope</b> by Paolo Friere	\$26.95
<b>Positions</b> by Jacques Derrida	\$26.95
<b>A Thousand Plateaus</b> by Gilles Deleuze & Felix Guattari	\$29.95
<b>Time for Revolution</b> by Antonio Negri	\$27.95
<b>Truth and Method</b> by Hans-Gregor Gadamer	\$29.95
<b>Violence and the Sacred</b> by Rene Girard	\$29.95



I always enjoy looking in our very substantial Reference section and just had to take home a large brown book with the title **Never Marry a Woman with Big Feet: Women in Proverbs from Around the World** by Mineke Schipper and published by Yale University Press (\$80 Hb 422pp incl bibliography). Mineke turns out to be female and anyone at all interested in Gender Studies must have this fascinating book. A valuable addition to any library. Also in Reference I found **Say it Plain: A Century of Great African American Speeches** edited by Catherine Ellis and Stephen Drury Smith (\$66 Hb 254pp), which includes two CDs of rare live recordings of classic speeches. A nice find.

Word addicts will find lots of fun upstairs, as well as scholarly stuff. In Reference, for instance, is Wynford Hicks' **Quite Literally: Problem Words and How to Use Them** (\$26 Pb 250pp). Hicks is described as an 'editorial trainer' and his book is intended for students and aspiring writers. It concentrates on writing, rather than speech. He gives his personal opinions and describes the division between 'conservatives' and 'radicals' when it comes to what is acceptable. All written in an easy style. Contrast this with **Larpers and Shroomers: The Language Report** by Susie Dent (\$32.95 Hb 165pp), in Linguistics, opposite Reference. This is really the equivalent of the Oxford University Press report on New Words. In an interesting epilogue, the team select - for each year since 1904 - one neologism to convey the essence of the period. The word chosen for 1904 is "hip", which I wouldn't have thought was that old. For 2004, the word is "chav", which you should also look up. Next to Linguistics is Writing & Publishing, where you can have lots more fun browsing.

On the morning of our stocktake last month, I found Peter Milne gleefully browsing through four books displayed on the front counter: **The Book of Who: An Onomasticon of People and Characters - Real and Imaginary**, which gives both basic and arcane facts and speculations, such as who is Old Foss? (Lear's cat); **The Book of Where: A Gazetteer of Places - Real and Imaginary** (including Cloud Cuckooland); **The Book of When: A Dictionary of Times and Seasons**, which contains all those Moveable Feasts and clarifies the changes of calendars and timekeeping over the years; and **The Book of What: A Thesaurus of Things - Everyday and Esoteric**, which contains all sorts of tables and lists and esoteric information that I couldn't begin to describe. If you are planning to win a million dollars on quiz shows, you must have these. Compiled and edited by Rodney Dale and only \$19.95 each. (Hb about 320pp each). Nice paper too.

Did you approve of the winner of the *Miles Franklin?* **The White Earth** by Andrew McGahan (\$29.95 Tp) has already been a good seller and deserves the acknowledgement. A timely book and a great choice for reading groups. It combines family saga with land possession by both white and indigenous people. I like the fact that the land itself is one of the characters. Not easy to achieve. I also

especially liked Steven Carroll's **Gift of Speed** (\$27.95 Tp) and hope you look at this too, but first read his **The Art of the Engine Driver** (\$22.95 Pb). These are the first two volumes of a projected trilogy which, when finished, I think will be the Australian equivalent of John Updike's *Rabbit* series. In fact, I approved of all five shortlisted titles, the others being Charlotte Wood's **The Submerged Cathedral** (\$22.95 Pb), Gail Jones' **Sixty Lights** (\$23.95 Pb) and Sarah Armstrong's **Salt Rain** (\$21.95 Pb). We judges were very happy to see so much good writing from young authors.

If you have been enjoying David Starkey holding forth on Monarchy on TV, you might like to have **A Brief History of British Kings and Queens** by Mike Ashley (\$27.95 Pb 528pp incl index, chronology and family charts). This is a revised edition which begins with an overview of the semi-legendary kings and queens of prehistory, continuing to the present.

I like to tell you about unusual items and here is a real gem. In the usual small white format, we have copies of **The Tale of Peter Rabbit in Hieroglyphs**. (\$19.95 Hb). The British Museum kindly gives you a few clues, such as "wheels were only used for chariots in the Middle Kingdom, so wheelbarrow has been translated as sledge". For those people who collect all editions of Peter Rabbit, this is a real find.

We are often asked if we have a Military History section. We normally suggest that people look in our 20th Century History section, or try Napoleon's of Sydney, the military specialist bookshop next door at 139 York Street. Now we have another suggestion in Roman History. This is Adrian Goldsworthy's **In the Name of Rome: The Men Who Won the Roman Empire** (\$26.95 Pb 480pp incl index). Goldsworthy is tipped as the next famous expert on military history, certainly by the people at Weidenfeld & Nicolson, who suggested the book to him. Weidenfeld & Nicolson is a name to be reckoned with when it comes to historical publishing, is it not?

I found a few more Military History suggestions. **Warfare in Ancient Greece: Arms and Armour from the Heroes of Homer to Alexander the Great** by Tim Everson (\$49.95 Hb 231pp incl index and b&w illustrations). An unlikely find (in Shakespeare Studies!) was **Shakespeare's Military Language: A Dictionary** by Charles Edelman, from Edith Cowan University in WA (\$59.95 Pb 423pp incl index). This not only has definitions, but also explains how warfare was commented upon and portrayed.

Lindy tells me there is a marvellous exhibition of Greek Treasures showing at the Powerhouse Museum, so I looked at our Ancient Greece section and came up with these titles: **Sport and Festival in the Ancient Greek World** (\$150 Hb 426pp incl index), which contains 15 new studies, edited by Phillips & Pritchard, and includes comment on how Greek artefacts linked to sport can best be presented to the world. We still have copies of Tony Perrottet's **Naked Olympics: The True Story of the Ancient Games** (\$24.95 Pb 214pp incl index). Remember this series on SBS? And for the scholarly minded, **Who Needs Greek?: Contests in the Cultural History of Hellenism** by Simon Goldhill (\$29.95 Pb 326pp incl index).

Everyone is concerned about the price and availability of oil, so I suggest these two new books: Kenneth Deffeye's **Beyond Oil: The View from Hubbert's Peak** (\$39.95 Hb 202pp incl index). **Hubbert's Peak** (\$37 Pb) was the title of

the 2003 book by this geologist about the impending world oil shortage. Also Paul Roberts' **The End of Oil: The Decline of the Petroleum Economy and the Rise of a New Energy Order** (\$26.95 Pb 399pp incl index).

I was down in Tasmania in May and my young bookseller friends at Hobart Bookshop in beautiful Salamanca Square invited me to the launch of Monica McInerney's latest book, **Family Baggage** (\$29.95 Tp 481pp). In preparation for this, I read her previous book, **Alphabet Sisters** (\$22.95 Pb). Now these books were a very nice discovery - quality, middle-brow fiction written with a great affection for the characters and plenty of humour. Monica has been compared to Maeve Binchy (also because she is at the moment living in Dublin), but I also compare her to Mary Wesley and remind you that her books are in our Australian Fiction section, because she is a Clare Valley girl who also lived in Hobart, where she has many friends.

You never know who reads these newsletters. We recently had an appreciative email from Cormac Millar in Ireland, author of **An Irish Solution** (\$19.95 Pb), who wrote to say thank you for the perceptive review of his book in our June *Crime Chronicle*. Cara, who wrote this staff review, was very pleased. For a change, this book is not about the IRA, but about fighting drugs.

This year is the 70th Anniversary of the founding of Penguin Books, which means a lot to people of a certain age, such as myself. We have a small stand containing copies of 70 slender books written by a select list of authors. Only \$3.95 each, so you may even be tempted to buy one of each! Do remember to check them out, as they won't be around forever. I also treated myself to **Penguin by Design: A Cover Story 1935-2005** by Phil Baines (\$45 Pb 255pp), a profusely illustrated history of Penguin covers, and the new biography of the greatest publisher of the 20th century, **Penguin Special: The Life and Times of Allen Lane** by Jeremy Lewis (\$49.95 Hb 484pp incl index). Lewis has written several, very enjoyable books about the book trade (and was a director of publisher Chatto & Windus for 10 years), so I am looking forward to reading this.

The NSW Guild of Craft Bookbinders is compiling a list of members who can repair old, loved books for you, or do a fine binding for a book as a gift. We will receive the list as soon as it is completed. Meanwhile, if you're interested, a contact number might be (02) 9999 1934 for Margaret Scott, who won the bookbinding prize (donated by Abbey's Bookshop) at the Royal Easter Show this year. The guild are also mounting an exhibition of the Bindings of the NSW Government Printing Office, which will be in the Royal Australian Historical Society House, 133 Macquarie Street, 10am to 4pm, 7 days a week from 19 August to 4 September. Admission by gold coin.

Keep well,

*Eve*



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## Abbey's Bestsellers - July 2005

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- Flashman on the March**  
by George MacDonald Fraser (Tp \$29.95)
- A Long Way Down** by Nick Hornby (Pb \$29.95)
- Snow** by Orhan Pamuk (Pb \$22.95)
- A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian**  
by Marina Lewycka (Pb \$29.95)
- The House of the Eagle: Ptolemies Quartet #1**  
by Duncan Sprott (Pb \$24.95)
- The White Earth** by Andrew McGahan (Tp \$29.95)
- Gilead** by Marilynne Robinson (Hb \$39.95)
- Never Let Me Go** by Kazuo Ishiguro (Tp \$29.95)

### Non-Fiction

- CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet** by Dr Manny Noakes & Peter Clifton (Pb \$29.95)
- Cambridge Aerospace Dictionary** by Bill Gunston (Hb \$150.00)
- The World is Flat** by Thomas Friedman (Hb \$49.95)
- Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Survive** by Jared Diamond (Pb \$32.95)
- The Worried Well: The Depression Epidemic and the Medicalisation of Our Sorrows**  
Quarterly Essay #18 by Gail Bell (Pb \$13.95)
- Affluenza: When Too Much is Never Enough**  
by Clive Hamilton & Richard Denniss (Pb \$24.95)
- Armageddon: The Battle for Germany 1944-45** by Max Hastings  
(Pb \$25.00)
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- The End of Poverty** by Jeffrey Sachs (Pb \$24.95)
- The Oxford Companion to Philosophy** by Ted Honderich (Hb \$95.00)

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**Birds Without Wings** by Louis de Bernieres \$24.95

A tale which traces the fortunes of a small community in South West Anatolia, a community in which Christians and Muslims have co-existed peacefully for centuries until the Great War.

**Richard the Lionheart: The Mighty Crusader** by David Miller \$26.95

King Richard I's personal bravery on the battlefield won him the name 'Lionheart', but as Miller reveals, his battles and campaigns demonstrate a brilliant grasp of strategy and tactics. 'Lionheart' was no mere medieval 'head banger', but a thoughtful military leader, the only Crusader commander who managed to get an army to Palestine without going bankrupt in the process.

**What's Right with Islam: Is What's Right With America** by Feisal Abdul Rauf \$27.95.

Rauf discusses his work for religious pluralism and interfaith dialogue in the American Muslim community, arguing that Islamic principles support the fundamental values of a pluralistic and democratic society.

**Monash: The Outsider Who Won a War** by Roland Perry \$34.95

Australian general Sir John Monash changed the way wars were fought and won. His obsessional, brilliant planning, coupled with a ruthless streak, caused him to break the German army in a succession of battles that led to the end of the Great War.

**The Known World** by Edward Jones \$22.95

A masterful, *Pulitzer Prize*-winning literary epic about the painful and complex realities of slave life on a Southern plantation.

**Genghis Khan** by John Man \$24.95

The first popular biography of the legendary Mongol emperor and warlord.

**The Wisdom of Crowds** by James Surowiecki \$24.95

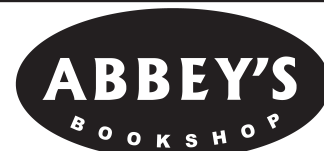
Decisions taken by a large group, even if the individuals within the group aren't smart, are always better than decisions made by small numbers of 'experts'. This seemingly simply notion has endless and major ramifications for how businesses operate, how knowledge is advanced, how economies are (or should be) organised and how nation-states fare.

**Editor:** Ann Leahy

**Contributors:** Eve Abbey, David Hall, Lindy Jones, Shelley Kay, Ann Leahy & Cara Willets. Customer review by Philip Selth.

#### Binding Key

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



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