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The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language (second edition)

David CRYSTAL This is one of the publishing phenomena of recent times. Rarely has a book so packed with accurate and well researched factual information been so widely read and popularly acclaimed. It has played a key role in the spread of general interest in language matters, generating further publications and broadcasting events for an avid audience. The first



edition appeared in hardback in 1995 and a revised paperback in 1997. There have been numerous subsequent updated reprintings, but this second edition now presents an overhaul of the subject for a new generation of language-lovers and teachers, students and professional English-users concerned with their own linguistic legacy. There are 44 new illustrations, as well as extensive new material on world English and Internet English and a complete updating of statistics, further reading suggestions and other references.

The New World of Martin Cortes

Anna LANYON Best known for her awardwinning book Malinche's Conquest (Pb \$24.95*), Lanyon again turns to the New World to follow the story of Malinche's son, Martin Cortes. Half-Spanish, half-Amerindian, she poses the question, how did he fit into these two worlds? Sent at the age of six to serve in the Spanish court of Carlos V, he became a knight of the order of Santiago, served the crown with loyalty and eventually returned to the land of his birth, where he was part of the household of his younger half-brother - also known as Martin Cortes. Caught up in a conspiracy, tortured and finally released into exile, the mestizo Martin Cortes leaves traces in history which the author follows in Spain and Mexico. History with the historian as part of the narrative. Lindy



Martin Corte

*Buy The New World of Martin Cortes and receive a \$10 discount voucher for Malinche's Conquest

Alexander McCall Smith

Don't miss this opportunity to meet Alexander McCall Smith, the author of the highly successful Mma Ramotswe titles:

The No.1 Ladies Detective Agency Tears of the Giraffe Morality for Beautiful Girls Kalahari Typing School for Men

The Full Cupboard of Life (All Tp \$26.95) Good news for fans of Precious Ramotswe: a new title

(the sixth in the series) **The Night-time Dancer** will be released in 2004. September will also see the launch of a new series of 'entertainments': McCall Smith has now turned his hand to humour. The delightful result is a creation of comic genius, for in the unnaturally tall form of Professor Dr Moritz-Maria von Igelfeld, we are invited to meet a memorable character whose sublime insouciance is a blend of the learned pomposity of Frazier Crane and the hapless gaucherie of Inspector Clouseau. The three titles are:



At the Villa of Reduced Circumstances (#3) (All Pb \$19.95) Country and interstate readers can order specially signed bookplates (tell us the details in advance and we will post them to you free of charge).

Alexander McCall Smith was born in Zimbabwe and educated there and in Scotland. He is Professor of Medical Law at the University of Edinburgh and a member of a number of international bodies concerned with bioethics. His books include works on medical law, criminal law and philosophy, as well as numerous books for children, collections of short stories and novels. He has lectured at various universities in Africa, including in Botswana, where he lived for a time. Peter



12.30 - 1.30 Monday 22 September AUTHOR IN-STORE

Seven Types of Ambiguity Elliot PERLMAN

624pp Tp \$35.00

Following years of unrequited love, an out-of-work schoolteacher 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 empty marriages, gambling and the market, poetry and prostitution, and obsessive love in an age of obsessive materialism. Brimming with emotional, intellectual and moral dilemmas, this page-turning story - reminiscent of the richest fiction of the 19th century in its labyrinthine complexity - unfolds at a rapid-fire pace to reveal the full extent to which these people have been affected by each other and by the insecure and uncertain times in which they live. Our times, now.



Fiction

Shantaram

Gregory David ROBERTS

936pp Hb \$49.95 Do not let the size of this book put you off. It is the finest Australian novel (barring the new Peter Carey) that I have read all year. Loosely based on Roberts' extraordinary life after escaping from a max-security prison in Victoria, his story explodes off the page from the first sentence and is utterly enthralling to the very last. He has a poet's ear for language and an unsparing self-awareness, which makes for a tale of stark beauty and harsh realities. His passionate love affair with Bombay and the undying affection he holds for many of its denizens is the backbone of this story; his encounters with the best and worst that life has to offer are its heart. There aren't enough superlatives available to me to describe this any further. Take seven hours out of your life and read this cover to cover - you won't regret a second of it. We also have two copies of the soundtrack of Shantaram which we will give away to the first two Abbey's cardholders to buy the book and mention this review. Cara

The Devil Wears Prada

Lauren WEISBERGER

Responding to the growing murmur about this first novel, set in the fabulous world of New York fashion publishing, I entered Weisberger's tale a little like the protagonist herself: bemused, frustrated with the limits of my knowledge (Jimmy Choo's?) and generally unsure that this really was for me. But 'hooked' seems an understatement for the effect on me of this funny and scary story of fashion excess, bringing up memories of the terrors of that first job that you are repeatedly told 'millions would die for'. Weisberger may not quite be the next literary master, but with this sharp and fast addition to (the insultingly named) 'chick lit'

genre, she certainly announces her presence. Great cover too.

The Clerkenwell Tales

Peter ACKROYD

This is a brilliant historical novel, set in London in the late 14th century. Sister Clarisse, a nun in the House of St Mary at Clerkenwell, experiences visions. "I am sister to the day and night. I am sister to the woods." She dreams of the English King. Are her prophesies the babblings of the crazed? Or can she 'see' a future in which Henry Bolingbroke overthrows Richard II? This clever and colourful novel begins with The Nun's Tale and continues with The Friar's Tale, The Merchant's Tale and Thus, story by story, Peter Ackroyd builds his portrait of medieval London. The people are disenchanted by the Church, with its wealth and corruption, its Pope in Rome and its Pope in Avignon. But heresy is dangerous... almost as dangerous as rebellion. This is a novel about spies and counter-spies, radicals and idealists, murderers and arsonists, sects and secret societies.

The Summer Book

Tove JANSSON

172pp Pb \$22.95 As a big fan of the moomintroll books as a child, I had always imagined the author to be male. This is one of the novels she wrote for adults. An elderly artist and her six-year-old granddaughter while away the summer together

on a tiny island in the Gulf of Finland, their solitude disturbed only by migrating birds, sudden storms and an occasional passing boat. Gradually, the two learn to adjust to each other's fears, foibles and yearnings for independence. A fierce yet understated love emerges - one that engulfs not only the summer inhabitants, but the very island itself. Jansson writes with a special toughness and with a quiet, dry sense of humour about a small girl and her grandmother, who as kindred spirits share the long days together. Ann



Pompeii

Robert HARRIS

400pp Tp \$32.95

Where better to enjoy summer than the Bay of Naples? The Roman Empire's richest citizens relax in luxurious villas, the world's tourists flock to the seaside resort of Pompeii. Engineer Marcus Attilius Primus has taken charge of the Aqua Augusta - the enormous aqueduct which brings water to around 250,000 people around the Bay - and he is far from happy. His predecessor has disappeared, springs are failing and there is a major crisis brewing on the main water line, somewhere on the slopes of Vesuvius. Attilius resolves to repair the fault before the reservoir runs dry, but he is about to discover there are natural forces which even the world's super power can't control.

The 1001 Nights of Drummer Donald Macleod

Harry HOPKINS 464pp Pb \$28.00 This charts the life and adventures of one of the most extraordinary of Scottish heroes. As a young Highland soldier, Donald gets caught up in the Egyptian campaign of the Napoleonic Wars. Following a military disaster, he is sold into slavery to the Egyptian aristocracy. After his liberation, he converts to Islam and becomes the owner of a harem, and friend and favourite dragoman to British travellers. Hopkins takes us from the Highland Diaspora to the land of 1001 Nights, from the life of the harem and its guardian eunuchs to the



sublime reaches of Mecca. An informative historical novel with a stunning blend of fact and fiction, this is a polished, pacey and vastly entertaining tale

The Resurrectionists

Michael COLLINS

360pp Pb \$21.95

The frozen wastes of North America are Michael Collins's heart of darkness, a territory he maps with infinite precision in this new novel of murder and menace. 20 years ago, when Frank was five, his parents burned to death in a remote Northern town. Now his uncle is dead too, shot by a mysterious stranger with a dead man's name, who now lies in a coma in the local hospital. Frank heads North to dig up the past - back to the town where he never belonged - to find out why his uncle died and why people shrink when they hear his name.

Looking forward...

Tarig Ali has a new book due next month. Bush in Babylon (Pb \$25) examines the war in Iraq and its consequences, arguing that Iraq's occupation and the resistance it provoked will mark the politics of the 21st century. Cara is enjoying an advance copy of Fanny by Edmund White (Hb \$49.95) - a quirky, dazzling fiction about the lives, loves and battles of two extraordinary 19th century women, Fanny White and Fanny Trollope. Trollope sets out in her 70s to write a biography of her old friend, the Scottish radical and feminist, Fanny Wright. However, the book soon becomes an excuse to settle scores with Fanny and set down colourful memories of her own life instead as it becomes increasingly unclear just which of these inimitable ladies is the real heroine.

Looking back...

Margaret Atwood's book on writing Negotiating With the Dead (Hb \$39.95) is "a witty, clever, self-deprecating book from one of the finest writers I know" -Michelle. I was intrigued to read I Don't Know How She Does It by Alison Pearson (Pb \$21.95). The first page was in the Spectrum some time ago, where we meet Kate Reddy, fund manager and mother of two, whacking mince pies with a rolling pin at midnight to achieve that home-made look for her daughter's school concert. Kate can juggle nine different currencies in five different time zones and get herself and two children washed and dressed and out of the house in half an hour. A victim of time famine, she counts seconds like other women count calories. Call me 'old fashioned', but I couldn't help wondering why Kate was punishing herself with such a gruelling schedule, and felt that she should have been spending more time with her kids! Which just goes to show that equality for women in the workplace is still a myth. Ann

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2

320pp Hb \$49.95

Adrian

400pp Pb \$21.95

Biography

Kate Remembered

318pp Hb \$49.95 A Scott BERG This memoir is both a tribute and a tender farewell, revealing an unusual relationship in a notable life lived largely according to Katharine Hepburn's own rules. More importantly, it sets down many of the stories of that life as she saw them, full of sentiments that she felt should not be made public until after her death. This book not only traces the poignant final 20 years during which Berg knew Hepburn - at her



townhouse in NYC, swimming in Long Island Sound and on weekend visits with family and friends - but also the better part of the 20th century that was the stage for this great theatrical personality. It records previously untold details of her career; her four Oscars and 12 Oscar nominations; and her starring roles in such films as The Philadelphia Story, The African Queen, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and On Golden Pond. It also includes famous relationships with men such as Spencer Tracy and Howard Hughes.

Bright Shapes and the True Names An Australian Memoir

Patrick McCAUGHEY

320pp Tp \$32.00 This is the highly entertaining autobiography of one of Australian art's most remarkable and charismatic figures. McCaughey's warm and humorous memoirs tell the story of how a young man growing up in Melbourne in the 1950's, 12,000 miles from London, Paris or New York, could fall passionately in love with the visual arts. He was 10 when he emigrated to Australia with his family in 1953. After university he worked as an art critic for *The Age* and has been engaged professionally and passionately in the Fine Arts ever since. He has held a Harkness Fellowship in New York, been Chair at Monash University where he created the department of Visual Arts, and famously held the role of Director of the National Gallery of Victoria. This was followed by a stint as Visiting Professor in Australian Studies at Harvard, directorship of the Wadsworth Athenaeum (America's oldest art museum) and finally the position of Director of the Yale Centre for British Art. Between his moving and sensitive recollections of his friendship with Fred Williams and the release of new information about the notorious theft of Picasso's Weeping Woman from the NGV, McCaughey offers a fascinating insider's view of the Australian art world. due September

The Girl from the Fiction Department A Portrait of Sonia Orwell

Hilary SPURLING 193pp Pb \$22.95 Sonia Brownell was a woman of great beauty, power and presence who married George Orwell three months before he died. She became his sole heir and literary executor and has been blamed for exploiting his name and copyrights, and squandering his fortune. Hilary Spurling argues that this is a travesty of the truth based on misconception, distortion and ignorance, and Sonia Orwell was in fact an heroic woman who devoted much of her life to righting wrongs.



Persepolis

The Story of a Childhood

Marjane SATRAPI

153pp Hb \$42.95

An autobiographical account of a feisty girl growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution and the war with Iraq. Most unusually, it is told in cartoon strip form, drawing obvious parallels with Art Speigelman's Maus where a cartoon strip manages to be both humorous and sad with a serious thread throughout. Great for people who respond to pictures more than words, it leaves an indelible impression.

A Million Little Pieces

James FREY

377pp Tp \$32.95 James Frey wakes up on a plane, with no memory of the preceding two weeks. His face is cut and his body is covered with bruises. He has no wallet and no idea of his destination. He has abused alcohol and every drug he can lay his hands on for a decade - and he is aged only 23. What happens next is one of the most powerful, extreme and honest stories ever told. His family takes him to a rehabilitation centre and he starts his perilous journey back to the world of the drug and alcohol-free living. His lack of self-pity gives him an unflinching, often searing, honesty.



A Bonfire in My Mouth Life, Passion and the Rainbow Warrior

Susi NEWBORN

232pp Tp \$29.95

As a committed environmental activist and one of the founding directors of Greenpeace UK, Susi Newborn was a woman with burning issues, unafraid to speak out and take direct action. She was there on the Arctic ice floes, preventing sealers from bludgeoning baby seals; she rode Zodiacs between the whalers' harpoons and the whales; and she signed the cheque that bought the Sir William Hardy, the Scottish fishing trawler she later renamed the Rainbow Warrior, of which she was one of the original crew. As the daughter of an Argentinian diplomat serving the Peronist Junta in London and Europe, she was born to an exotic life of privilege. All this came to an abrupt end when her father died in London in mysterious circumstances. Susi then chose a life of environmental activism, which put her in the heart of the Greenpeace phenomenon.

Kids

reviewed by Lindy Jones

The Silver Stream by Robert Roennfeldt

32pp Hb \$24.95

With the successful birth of platypus at Taronga earlier in the year, this is a fine story about how Mother Platypus seals her burrow, lays two soft eggs and successfully raises her babies. With a couple of gentle messages (be patient, be brave) and softly glowing illustrations which are both realistic and uncluttered. I can highly recommend this book as being a sweet story and gently educational.

Tadpole's Promise by Tony Ross & Jeanne Willis

28pp Hb \$27.95

This is one of those books which adults enjoy as much, if not more, than children! A tadpole and a caterpillar fall in love and he promises her he will not change. But of course, he cannot keep his promise, for as sure as the weather changes, he does too. There is a twist which I can't reveal. but I promise it elicits a response from all who have read it! Charming illustrations



which are deceptively simple (there are small dramas being enacted apart from the text) add to the appeal of this story.

50 Famous Australians by Meredith Costain

258pp Pb \$17.95

Starting with Robyn Archer, sweeping through 200 years, finishing with Nat Young, this collection of potted biographies would appeal to ages 10-13. Each subject is given 5 pages, with a photo or portrait, career highlights, lists of interesting facts and information relevant to the age of the intended reader (ie no dirt!) An interesting mix of celebrities, historical figures, indigenous people and sports people.

All This Talk About Careers by Kate Armstrong 225pp Pb \$17.95 This is a handy little guide to thinking about careers. 50 people talk about the jobs they do, how they got there, what the work entails and give tips and advice. All sorts of professions are featured, ones like nursing, law, science, hairdressing and acting. More interestingly, there are slightly different choices like stone mason, clown doctor, circus trainer and wool classer. What is guite appealing is that many of these people didn't fall immediately into the career which provides satisfaction and the point is constantly made that it's never too late to change your direction!

ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP

History

American Scoundrel

Murder, Love and Politics in Civil War America

Thomas KENEALLY

Keneally brilliantly recreates an extraordinary period in which the charmingly caddish Dan Sickles personified the excesses of the time. A chronic womaniser, he introduced his favourite madam to Queen Victoria while his wife stayed home; as minister to Spain, he began an affair with the Queen while courting one of her ladies in waiting. In his later years, he installed his housekeeper as his mistress while his second wife took up residence nearby. His was a life of bravado, lived at top speed, and Keneally uses him as a lens through which to view an era as uncomfortably relevant now as it was then.



The Trial of the Cannibal Dog Captain Cook in the South Seas Anne SAL MOND

506pp Hb \$49.95

This is a spectacular recreation of three of the greatest and most startling of all human journeys. The Pacific voyages of James Cook explored the ice-bound fringes of the Arctic and Antarctic, sailed across perilous tropical seas, survived hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, discovered unknown lands and peoples, and made their Captain an icon of imperial history. Yet the story of these epic South Sea journeys is far more than one of conquest and control. In Salmond's account, Cook's great voyages regain their dreamlike quality as they encounter the last major human communities untouched by wider worlds. Far from being little wooden islands of Englishness in a Polynesian sea, his ships and the men in them

were much changed by the islanders. We see them alarmed and entranced by the islanders' open sexuality, shocked by human sacrifice and cannibalism, but also making Pacific Island friends and lovers, acquiring tattoos and learning to speak Polynesian languages. Cook himself was granted the status of high chief in many areas before his violent downfall. Filled with astonishing descriptions, drawing on all the surviving accounts of New Zealand, Tahiti, Easter Island, Hawaii, Tonga, the Society Islands and the New Hebrides, this book re-imagines the two worlds that explosively collided in



the 18th century and the lasting impact of that collision.

The Mapmakers' Quest

Depicting New Worlds in Renaissance Europe David BUISSERET

250pp Hb \$69.95

In 1400, Europe lagged behind large parts of the world in its understanding of the use of maps. For instance, the people of China and Japan were considerably more advanced in this respect. Yet by 1600, the Europeans had come to use maps for a huge variety of tasks and were far ahead of the rest of the world in their appreciation of the power and uses of cartography. This work seeks to understand this development, not only to tease out the strands of thought and practice which led to the use of maps, but also to assess the ways in which such use affected European

societies and economies. Taking as a starting point the question of why there were so few maps in Europe in 1400 and so many by 1650, this book explores the reasons for this and its implications for European history.



Gulag

A History of the Soviet Concentration Camps

Anne APPLEBAUM 624pp Hb \$59.95 Much is known about the Nazi death camps, but almost nothing about the vast network of labour camps which were once scattered across Russia - from the White Sea to the Black Sea, and from the Arctic circle to the plains of Central Asia. This work draws together the mass of memoirs published in Russia and digests the vast archival materials now available. The gulag had antecedents in Czarist Russia, first established by the Bolsheviks in 1918 to imprison supporters of the Czar. Stalin dramatically increased the Gulag system as a way to bolster economic production through forced labor, excavate



natural resources in remote areas and eliminate political dissent of all kinds. By 1921, there were already 84 camps in 43 provinces and at the end of the 1930s, they could be found in every one of the Soviet Union's 12 time zones. Contrary to popular assumption, the Gulag did not cease growing in the 1930s, but continued to expand, reaching its apex in the early 1950s. The Gulag had its own laws, customs, morality and even its own slang. It spawned its own literature, villains and heroes, and it left its mark upon all who passed through it. Years after being released, the Gulag's inhabitants were often able to recognise former inmates on the street simply from the look in their eyes. The camps continued to evolve throughout the 1970s and early 1980s. Some were redesigned and put to use as prisons for a new generation of democratic activists, anti-Soviet nationalists and criminals. Only in 1987 did Mikhail Gorbachev - himself the grandson of Gulag prisoners - begin to dissolve the Soviet Union's political camps altogether. The history of the Gulag is now becoming known to us and it makes for fearfully grim reading. Cara

Fortress Malta

An Island Under Siege 1940-1943

James HOLLAND 440pp Hb \$49.95 Malta remains the most bombed place on earth. In March and April 1942, more explosives were dropped on this tiny Mediterranean island (smaller than the Isle of Wight) than on the whole of Britain during the first year of the Blitz. Malta had become one of the most strategically important places in the world. From there, the Allies could attack Axis supply lines to North Africa. Without it, Rommel would be able to march unchecked into Egypt, Suez and the Middle East. For the Allies, this would have been



catastrophic. The battle that ensued stretched the civilian population and their defenders to the limits. Slowly but surely they fought back, taking the fight back to the enemy. Without Malta, El Alamein could not have been won. As Churchill said, Malta had to be held "at all costs". This book follows the story through the eyes of those who were there such as 20-year-old fighter pilot Raoul Daddo Langlois and cabaret dancer-turned RAF plotter Christina Ratcliffe and her lover, the brilliant and irrepressible reconnaissance pilot, Adrian Warburton. Their stories and others provide extraordinary first-hand accounts of heroism, resilience, love and loss.

Medieval Worlds

A Sourcebook

Roberta ANDERSON & Dominic BELLENGER (eds) 368pp Pb \$47.00 This is a comprehensive sourcebook for the study of Western Europe from the 5th to the 15th century. The era was one of immense diversity and openness to new ideas and outreach in areas ranging from technology to natural philosophy. The material collected in this volume covers a wide range of documentation, including chronicles, legal and official state and church documents, biographies, poems and letters. As a whole, they illustrate the complexity - as well as the unity - of the medieval world, covering the whole of Europe. Subjects covered range from the worlds of monasteries, the papacy, the crusades and women, to the roles of the town and the countryside.

History

Bush's Brain

How Karl Rove Made George W Bush Presidential

James MOORE & Wavne SLATER The most powerful individual in the United States may not be George W Bush. It is probably Karl Rove, the President's brilliant adviser. Who is this man and how did he acquire so much power? Having watched in awe for over 15 years as they reported on the rise of Karl Rove, Moore and Slater expose the brutal and sometimes morally questionable, but invariably effective, ways in which Karl Rove - and America's political system - actually operate. This is the inside story on how Rove: destroyed the careers of people who opposed his ideas and his candidates; planned 'secret' classes to teach Bush how government works;



ran brutal, vet brilliant, campaigns that eventually swept Bush into the White House; impacted the mid-term elections of 2002 and exerts his influence in virtually every presidential decision, whether it involves steel import tariffs or extending the war on terrorism.

Weapons of Mass Deception

The Uses of Propaganda in Bush's War on Irag

Sheldon RAMPTON & John STAUBER 224pp Pb \$19.95 The authors of Trust Us, We're Experts! (Pb \$28.00), professional debunkers of media manipulation, Rampton and Stauber unmask the impact of "information warriors and perception managers" (as one PR consultant described himself) on Bush's attempt to turn public opinion in favour of war on Irag. They reveal in detail how public relations experts in the Bush Administration acted deliberately to distort the news, to suppress the facts and to push an America still shocked by the attacks of 9/11 into war on Iraq. Worse, they build a damning case against the mainstream media and its failure to challenge the White House over its most blatant lies and evasions. This is not just another hastily produced book to add to the tide of public debate, but a systematically researched and compelling dossier on the workings of the US propaganda machine. 23 pages of extremely detailed references and websites are worth the price of the book alone. This is the sort of book that I wanted to underline and memorise every second sentence, and stop anyone who would listen to the astounding facts revealed. Ann

The Battle for Iraq

BBC News Correspondents on the War Against Saddam and a **New World Agenda**

BBC NEWS

208pp Pb \$19.95 It's said that the first casualty in a war is truth, as both sides jostle to defend their positions. In the Iraq war, the BBC deployed an unrivalled team of correspondents to cover the complex issues involved and to seek out the truth. For this book, top correspondents, including John Simpson, Rageh Omaar and Fergal Keane, have written a series of incisive and accessible

essays which guide the reader through each stage of the Irag crisis. The book also contains firsthand accounts from the front lines. Some BBC correspondents, such as Ben Brown and Gavin Hewitt, were 'embedded' with US and British troops and they provide unique snapshots of combat and the hazards of reporting through the "fog of war". This book guides the reader through each stage of the crisis, from the evolution of American policy after 9/11, through the diplomatic and political confrontation in the run-up to war, to the campaign itself and the prospects for Iraq's post-war reconstruction.



American Massacre The Tragedy at Mountain Meadows,

September 1857 Sally DENTON 320pp Hb \$49.95 In September 1847, a wagon train passing through Utah with gold was attacked and the people in it slaughtered. For 150 years, this incident at Mountain Meadows has been the focus of passionate debate - were Mormon church officials responsible for the massacre or not? The author, of Mormon descent herself, traces the extraordinary history of the



Mormons up to the time of the murders. She makes it clear that in the immediate aftermath of the incident, the Church began to place the blame on John D Lee - a discredited Mormon - and on Native Americans. Drawing on contemporaneous records and newly revealed documents, she argues that the Church's leader, Brigham Young, bore significant responsibility. Impelled by the Church's financial crises, he incited the crime in both word and deed, as fierce scrutiny and condemnation by the federal government intensified. The rapidly expanding and fantastically wealthy Mormon Church of today still struggles to absolve itself of what is an act of religious fanaticism unparalleled in the annals of American history. This is a riveting narrative, utterly convincing and wholly compelling. due September

Politicide

Ariel Sharon's War Against the Palestinians **Baruch KIMMERLING**

Ariel Sharon is one of the most experienced, shrewd and frightening leaders of the new millennium. Despite being found both directly and indirectly responsible for acts considered war crimes under international law, he became Prime Minister of Israel, a political victory he won by provoking the Palestinians into a new uprising, the second intifada. From the beginning of his career, Sharon was regarded as the most brutal, deceitful and unrestrained of all the Israeli generals and politicians. A man of monstrous vision, his attempts to destroy



the Palestinian people have included the proposal to make Jordan the Palestinian state, and the now infamous invasion of Lebanon in 1982, which resulted in the Shabra and Shatila massacres. Kimmerling describes Sharon's guest to reshape the whole geopolitical landscape of the Middle East. He describes how Sharon is committed to politicide, the destruction of the Palestinian political identity and how he has won the support of powerful elements within Israeli society and the present American administration in order to achieve this. At this time of crisis, he exposes the brutality of Sharon and his junta's 'solutions' and constructs a devastating indictment of a man whose cruelty and ruthlessness have resulted in widespread and indiscriminate slaughter.

Australian Liberals and the Moral Middle Class From Alfred Deakin to John Howard

240pp Pb \$37.95

Judith BRETT The Liberal Party of Australia was late to form in 1945, but the traditions and ideals upon which it is founded have been central to Australian politics since Federation. This book provides the first complete history of the Australian liberal tradition, and then of the Liberal Party from the second half of the 20th century. It sparkles with insight, particularly in its sustained analysis of the shifting relationships between the experiences of the moral middle class and Australian liberals' own self-understandings. Beginning with Alfred Deakin facing the organised working class in Parliament and ending with John Howard, electorally triumphant, but alienated from key sections of middle class opinion, this book "provides an original and powerfully coherent insight into how the non-Labor parties have understood politics and themselves." - Stuart Macintyre.

ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP

131 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000

History

Shipwrecks

Australia's Greatest Maritime Disasters Evan McHUGH

336pp Tp \$32.95

"The wind noise was screaming, howling . . . incredible, plus the rain and the sea spray, it was just like being hit by nails or stabbed in the face." From the first wreck in 1622 off Western Australia to the tragedy of the 1998 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race, Evan McHugh captures all the drama of Australia's maritime history. There are swashbuckling mutineers, violent storms, uncharted reefs, enemy warships, as well as ripping yarns about Dutchmen and lascars, Aborigines and escaped convicts. This is a whiteknuckle voyage through chaos and tragedy which proclaims the courage and strength of the human spirit. It is a powerful reminder that even in the 21st century the sea remains a great, unconquered frontier. "The ship seemed not to sink, but the waters seemed to rise around us. The vessel went down suddenly at the last moment, leaving 200 people all huddled together in the water."

The Lost King of France Revolution, Revenge and the Search for Louis XVII

Deborah CADBURY 368pp Tp \$24.95 Royalty, revolution and mystery abound in this detective story of the brief life and many possible deaths of Louis XVII, the son of Marie Antoinette. Louis-Charles Bourbon enjoyed a charmed early childhood in the gilded palace of Versailles. At the age of four, he became the Dauphin, heir to the most powerful throne in Europe. Yet within five years, he was to lose everything. Drawn into the horror of the French Revolution, his family was incarcerated and their fate thrust into the hands of the revolutionaries who wished to destroy the monarchy. In 1793, when his mother was



beheaded at the guillotine, she left her adored eight-year-old son imprisoned in the Temple Tower. Far from inheriting a throne, the orphaned boy-King had to endure the hostility and abuse of a nation. Two years later, the Revolutionary leaders declared Louis XVII was dead; no grave was dug, no monument built to mark his passing. Immediately, rumours spread that the Prince had escaped from prison and was still alive; others believed that he had been murdered, his heart cut out and preserved as a relic. In time, his older sister, Marie-Therese, who survived the Revolution, was approached by countless 'brothers' who claimed not only his name, but also his inheritance. Several 'princes' were plausible, but which, if any, was the real Louis-Charles? The quest for the truth finally runs to the present day. Using modern DNA testing, the strange odyssey of a stolen heart found within the royal tombs leads to an exciting conclusion to the 200-year-old mystery of the lost King of France.

The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea

Robert HOLDEN

400pp Tp \$29.95

Set against the colour, adventure and vibrancy of 19th century Australia, this is the unique life story of Captain William Chamberlain - from childhood through the adventures of his early life, following his rescue, during his brief period of service in the Royal Navy at the Battle of Algiers and on his return home to Sydney in 1816. Much of his adult life was spent as a whaling captain in Tasmania before tragedy stuck once again in 1856, when his young son was murdered by a convict. We also meet Captain Alexander Bodie, charged with abducting Chamberlain from Sydney Cove on his whaling ship in 1811, who provides a real-life parallel with Captain Ahab, the insane whaling captain enshrined in the pages of Herman Melville's timeless tale, **Moby Dick** (Pb \$11.95).



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From the Academic Presses

In Foundations of Language: Brain, Meaning, Grammar, Evolution (477pp Pb \$59.95) Ray Jackendoff puts linguistics back at the centre of the search to understand human consciousness. He proposes a radical re-conception of how the brain processes language, opening up new perspectives on every major aspect of language and communication, including grammar, vocabulary, learning and the origins of human language.



In The Cambridge Companion to Pascal (287pp

Pb \$59.95) edited by Nicholas Hammond, a team of leading scholars presents the full range of Pascal's achievements and surveys the intellectual background of his thought and the reception of his work. Topics covered include Pascal's work on probability, decision theory, physics, philosophy of science, theory of knowledge, biblical interpretation, grace and religious belief.

Two new additions to the excellent *Cambridge Film Handbooks* series are **Alfred Hitchcock's Rear Window** (191pp Pb \$45.00) edited by John Belton and **Francis Ford Coppola's The Godfather Trilogy** (207pp Pb \$39.95) edited by Nick Browne.

Material Modernism: The Politics of the Page (185pp Hb \$140.00) by George Bornstein draws on editorial theory, cultural studies and the history of the book to argue for a freshly historicised reading of modernism. The author argues that current constructions of literary modernism are derived from the fixed, current, material forms of its texts and he chooses an alternative construction that emphasises historical contingency, multiple versions and the material features of the text itself.

In the ancient world, meteorology included not only the study of the weather, but also geological, seismological and astronomical phenomena. **Ancient Meteorology** (271pp Pb \$55.00) by Liba Taub explores Greek and Roman approaches and attitudes to this broad subject. The author discusses a variety of classical texts which discuss meteorology, from works by Homer and Hesiod to Lucretius, Aristotle and Seneca.

Ancient Cities (444pp Pb \$62.00) by Charles Gates surveys the cities of the ancient Near East, Egypt and the Greek and Roman worlds from an archaeological perspective, in their cultural and historical contexts. It brings to life the physical world of ancient city dwellers by concentrating on the evidence recovered by archaeological excavations from the Mediterranean basin and southwest Asia.

In **The Enigmas of Easter Island** (256pp Hb \$59.95), John Flenley and Paul Bahn try to answer some of the questions about the mysterious inhabitants of this island. They combine a wealth of new archaeological evidence, intriguing folk memories and the records of Cook and other early explorers, to reveal how the island's decline may have stemmed from an ecological catastrophe.

Islam: An Historical Introduction, 2nd ed (301pp Pb \$49.95) by Gerhard Endress was written to give students of Islam and the history of the Muslim peoples an introduction to the basic concepts and problems. It features a detailed chronology and a very comprehensive bibliography.

The Church in Ancient Society from Galilee to Gregory the Great (730pp Pb \$110.00) by Henry Chadwick is a full narrative history of the first six centuries of the Christian Church. Christianity is discussed in relation to how it appeared to both Jews and pagans, and how its Christian doctrine and practice were shaped in relation to the Graeco-Roman culture and the Jewish matrix.

The fourth edition of the classic **A Short History of Opera** (1030pp Hb \$130.00) by Donald Grout and Hermine Williams is now here. Incorporating new scholarship that traces the most important developments in the evolution of musical drama, it examines not only the standard performance repertoire, but also works considered important for the genre's development.

Noblewomen, Aristocracy and Power in the Twelfth-Century Anglo-Norman Realm (276pp Pb \$62.00) by Susan Johns is the first study of noblewomen in 12th century England and Normandy and of the ways they exercised power. It draws on a rich mix of evidence to offer an important reconceptualisation of women's role in aristocratic society, and in doing so suggests new ways of looking at lordship and the ruling elite in the high middle ages. Dave

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6

Philosophy in Short...

Considered by many to be the most influential of modern French philosophers, though overshadowed in recent years by the work of subsequent poststructuralists and postmodernists such as Foucault and Derrida, Jean Paul Sartre and his work, reassessed here in this new book The New Sartre (Tp \$45.00), has always had a deep and enduring relevance to modern times. This insightful book analyses Sartre's main body of thought (existentialism) and its vague relation to postmodernism, focusing on his two main philosophical texts, Being and Nothingness (Tp \$53.00) and Critique of Dialectical Reason (Hb \$48.00). The book puts Sartre's work into a solid and clear perspective pertaining to modern times and reinforces its place as a stronghold in the history of French thought. Very convincing and essential for anyone who wants a clear understanding of Sartre and his relation to modern times.

Postmodernism (supposedly also known as 'pomo' or 'po-mo', we are told in this book) seems to have come such a long way in such a short time and now its got to the point where no one really can give a solid definition of what it actually is. Arthur Asa Berger's new book Portable Postmodernist (Tp \$38.95) sets out, in an accessible and enjoyable way, to set things straight. Berger defines and organises postmodern theory by looking at the theorists who had such an impact (Lyotard, Baudrillard and Jameson) and the elusive ideas they produced. Using these as his basis, he then takes us from feminism, postmodern architecture and even punk music.

An author whose contribution has been enormous to the canon of postmodern thought is Michel Foucault. The Routledge Classic series have a published another of his books, The Birth of the Clinic (Pb \$31.00), a medical history (but so much more) that reveals us to sharp visions of issues relating to history, the nature of language, reason and truth. Foucault uses his complex technique of historical analysis that unravels layers of significance that penetrate the human predicament. A big chunk of a book that, if thoroughly taken aboard, will change the way you think.

Jean Baudrillard is also a modern thinker whose insights are some of the most daunting, though influential, of recent thought. Cool Memories IV (Tp \$39.95), the fourth book in a series of attractive books from Verso, is a dark and abstract book written in short fragments and conceptual sketches. It looks at reality and meaning and a human's relationship to the physical world

Also published by Verso is a compelling account of imperialism and its history by Ellen Meiksins Wood called Empire of Capital (Hb \$43.00). The author looks at the 'new imperialism' and its chief enforcer, the US. Using examples of past cases of imperialism (ancient Rome, Spanish conquest, medieval Europe), we see their relation to the capitalist imperialism of today, which has its roots in the English domination of Ireland, which developed through to America and India. A relevant book to understand the modern issues and how this 'new imperialism' formed and structured itself in modern society.

Drawing on a broad scope of historical examples (much like Foucault), Steve Bruce, in his new book Politics and Religion (Tp \$55.00), looks at religion's imbedded presence in politics and how its influence is obvious in all political landscapes. His worldly view of his subject makes his insights very convincing and this book is essential for anyone concerned with freedom and rationality in politics (as the majority of us would be).

Kim Sterelny's new book Thought in a Hostile World (Tp \$49.95) is a clear and intriguing look at the development of human cognition. The base idea of the book looks at how we react to certain social threats, both physical and hidden. Using this and other related ideas, Sterenly looks at the history of the human mind and how and why it has evolved the way it has. In the end, the reader is not so much told what they already know, as left with plenty to think about. Vital for students or readers of philosophy.

The philosophies of Buddhism are a huge growing area of interest in the Western world and this excellent introduction to Buddhism, Philosophy of the Buddha (Tp \$43.00) by moral philosopher Christopher Gowans, is a careful guidance through Buddhism and its many attractive features. Using a relative outlook to Western philosophy, Gowans, in his stylish and clear writing, looks at Buddhism's history and its place in the world today. A concise and appropiate introduction for anyone wanting to join the wave of Buddhism. Tristan



Bad Karma

Tamara SHEWARD This is not only 'bad karma', it's just plain bad. Two 20-something Aussie gals drinking and partying across Southeast Asia may be someone's idea of fun,

but this is a book which seems to have been hastily published with little regard for the countries being represented (or violated) here. Having been to Vietnam some years ago, I remember the local kids saying "Úc, Úc" excitedly when they saw the Qantas kangaroo sticker on my backpack ("Úc" is Vietnamese for Australian, pronounced "ook" like "book"). Here Tamara Sheward has mistaken "Úc" for "oop" and writes repeatedly of being an "oop" and an "ooping lunatic" and so on. This is an understandable mistake, but a phrase book may have helped. This sort of thing reminds me of some brash tourists who seem to think English is the only language on earth. Sheward feels compelled to make every mundane experience a slapstick farce, which I found tiresome, rather than funny. In her eternal pursuit of drinking and hangovers, she seems to have missed the history and beauty in these cultures. I have only one word for the producers of this book...oops! Ann

A Thousand Days in Venice

Marlena de BLASI

When Fernando spots her in a Venice cafe and knows immediately that she is 'The One', Marlena de Blasi is caught off guard. A divorced American woman travelling through Italy, she thought she was satisfied with her life. Yet within a few months, she has left her job as a chef, sold her house, kissed her two grown-up kids goodbye and moved to Venice. Once there, she finds herself sitting in sugar-scented pasticcerie, strolling through 16th century palazzi, renovating an apartment overlooking the seductive Adriatic Sea and preparing to wed a virtual stranger in an ancient stone church. As this transplanted American learns the hard way about the peculiarities of Venetian



272pp Pb \$22.95

306pp Pb \$24.95

culture, we are treated to an honest, often comic, view of how two middle-aged people, both set in their ways, but also set on being together, build a life.

Show Me the Magic **Travels Round Benin by Taxi**

Annie CAULFIELD 372pp Pb \$24.95 This is a travel book about Dahomey (Benin) - an inhospitable country in Africa where corruption is rife and where Catholicism shares a place with Gri Gri, the local Voodoo. The Muslim north of the country is arid and tough, whereas the south is colourful, sophisticated and artistic. The countryside ranges from pretty English rural to arid sub-Sahara. Annie experiences this country of contrasts from the back seat of a taxi driven by a wacky control freak called Isidore.



Four Corners

A Journey into the Heart of Papua New Guinea Kira SALAK

379pp Pb \$22.95 Following the route taken by British explorer Ivan Champion in 1927, and amid the breathtaking landscapes and wildlife, Salak travelled across this remote

Pacific island - often called the last frontier of adventure travel - by dugout canoe and on foot. Along the way, she stayed in a village where cannibalism was still practised behind the backs of the missionaries, met the leader of the OPM (the separatist guerrilla movement opposing the Indonesian occupation of Western New Guinea) and undertook an epic trek through the jungle. This is also an exploration of the author's dysfunctional family past and the demons that drove her to experience situations that most of us can barely imagine.



ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP

Science

FitzRoy

The Remarkable Story of Darwin's Captain and the Invention of the Weather Forecast

John & Mary GRIBBIN

352pp Tp \$39.95

Admiral FitzRoy made his name as a captain on the HMS Beagle. It was for his second voyage on the ship (1832-36) that he decided to ask Charles Darwin to accompany him, and it was during this time that Darwin began to develop the ideas that would lead him to his theory of evolution by natural selection. But there was so much more to FitzRoy than this: he was an MP, he was the second governor of New Zealand from 1843-45 (when he made himself unpopular with settlers by upholding Maori rights) and in 1854 he set up the Meteorological Office, so for the first time sailors could know what weather to expect when they set sail. Sadly, he later comitted suicide. A fascinating story of an extraordinary man.

In the Blink of an Eye

The Cause of the Most Dramatic Event in the History of Life Andrew PARKER 316pp Pb \$29.95

So what did cause the so-called Cambrian explosion - a subject that has exercised many a scientist? Why did the number of different phyla expand from 3 to 38 and over the (geologically) short period of five million years? In this interesting and methodically constructed book, Parker expounds the theory that vision, as distinct from light perception, was the cause. Being able to see meant that predation became a deliberate act, camouflage and/or protective adaptations of bodily structure became necessary and colour played an increasing role in survival. Stretching over a number of scientific disciplines including palaeontology, optical physics, biology and geology, this carefully written book may just solve the Cambrian riddle. Lindv

The Ghost with Trembling Wings Science, Wishful Thinking and the Search for Lost Species Scott WEIDENSAUL 352pp Pb \$29.95

Three or four times an hour. 80 or more times a day, a unique species of plant or animal vanishes forever. And yet, every so often, one of these lost species resurfaces... Having adventures most of us can only dream about, Weidensaul has collected stories of loss and recovery, endurance against the odds and surprising resurrections. His search takes him to the rainforests of the Caribbean and Brazil in pursuit of long-lost birds, to the rugged mountains of Tasmania for the stripy, wolf-like Tasmanian Tiger, our own thylacine, to cloning laboratories where scientists struggle to recreate long-extinct



animals and to the moorlands and tidy farms of England on the trail of mysterious black panthers whose existence seems to depend on the faith of those looking for them.

A Mathematician Plays the Market

John Allen PAULOS

216pp Hb \$35.00 Can a renowned mathematician successfully outwit the stock market? This is the fascinating, funny and often excruciating story of how Paulos gambled - and lost - his money in the course of his investigations into the

stockmarket. How his 'hot tip' on a company called WorldCom turned out to be a disaster, how even as the share price started to plummet he kept on buying and how he tried to convince himself, using mathematical logic, that everything would be all right. Throughout his adventures in the marketplace, Paulos manages to shed light on its paradoxes and puzzles - How random is it? How do you assess risk? This tale of greed, business gurus and gullible punters is for anyone interested in how the market works and how it can go horribly wrong.



The Lost Dinosaurs of Egypt

William NORTHDURFT & Josh SMITH

256pp Tp \$26.95

On the eve of WWI, an amazing cache of strange Cretaceous-age dinosaurs were discovered in the Great Western Desert of Egypt. With considerable difficulty, the collection was brought to Munich, only to vanish in the flames of WWII. A few years ago, a young soldier-turned-researcher set out on a quest to rediscover the site and was successful beyond his wildest dreams when his team uncovered bones of one of the largest dinosaurs ever found. This remarkable account of dinosaur hunters, separated by nearly a century of warfare and mystery, results in the discovery of a brand new genus of dinosaur - the Paralitian Stromeri.

Einstein's Clocks and Poincare's Maps

Peter GALISON

In May 1905, Albert Einstein changed time forever. His theory of relativity had practical consequences that changed the world. Only a century before, Europe had a huge number of local time zones and no proper system of synchronising them. This threatened chaos. particularly on the railways and communications. Synchronised time was necessary to create timetables for passengers and stop trains from crashing as they hurtled in opposite directions along single tracks. Enter two revolutionary thinkers. Henri Poincare, a



348pp Hb \$44.95

member of the Paris Bureau of Longitude, realised that synchronised clocks would underpin further French conquests in Africa. So a grid of telegraph cables was planned from France all the way down to colonial Senegal and onwards. A Paris master-clock would transmit a telegraphic pulse with which all the clocks in Africa could synchronise. Meanwhile, working in the Bern patent office. Albert Einstein witnessed this stream of new inventions. which set him thinking. He suggested the revolutionary conclusion that there was no such thing as 'universal time' - it was just an illusion given by properly synchronised clocks. Published when he was only 26, Einstein's special theory of relativity paper had profound consequences for the world. due September

Some Time with Feynman

Leonard MLODINOW

171pp Hb \$29.95

This title tells the story of Leonard Mlodinow's first year on the Caltech faculty in the winter of 1981. It is the narrative of himself as a young physicist trying to find his place in the world and the wisdom of an old and dying physicist who helped him, the legendary Richard Feynman. But it is also the story of this famous scientist's last days, his rivalry with fellow Nobel laureate Murray Gell-Mann, and the beginnings of the string theory, now the leading theory in physics and cosmology. The book reveals the untold side of Richard Feynman, candid and off-the-cuff. Over two years, the two spoke many times and discussed many questions. How do I know if I have what it takes? How does a scientist think? What is the nature of creativity? Through these conversations, Mlodinow found the answers he sought about the nature of science and the scientist, but more than that, he discovered a new approach to life.

Eureka Science Prize 2003

The Waterbug Book

A Guide to the Freshwater Macroinvertebrates of Temperate Australia

John GOODERHAM & Edward TSYRLIN 232pp Pb \$39.95 Freshwater macroinvertebrates provide a useful and reliable indicator of the health of our rivers, streams, ponds and wetlands. Here for the first time is a comprehensive and accurate identification guide to the animals that inhabit our freshwaters. A deserved winner of the *Eureka Prize*, this book contains an easy-to-use key to all macroinvertebrate groups and includes high guality colour photographs of live specimens. It provides a wealth of basic information on the biology of macroinvertebrates and describes the SIGNAL method for assessing river health. Abbey's Bookshop is a regular sponsor of the Eureka Prizes.

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Briefly Noted...

Galaxies and the Cosmic Frontier (317pp Hb \$65.00) by William Waller and Paul Hodge is a superb look at galaxies and what they can tell us about the structure and evolution of the universe. It is well written, well illustrated and up-to-date. If you are looking for a good book on galaxies - and who isn't? then this is it.

Remnants of the Fall: Revelations of Particle Secrets (287pp Pb \$38.95) by William Rolnick aims to present our current understanding of the basic building blocks of nature and their fundamental interactions. The author has chosen to do this without mathematics, but he has included many diagrams and a very comprehensive glossary, as well as interspersing the text with a selection of poems, making this a very enjoyable and painless way to learn particle physics.

Savannah Lives (317pp Hb \$59.95) by Staffan Ulfstrand offers an introduction to the African savannahs, both as home to a unique wildlife and as the birthplace of the human species. As well as describing the lives of some of the most charismatic savannah species, the author goes on to explain how our understanding of the animals' behaviour and evolution can provide insights into much of our own behaviour and modern lifestyle.

In Masks of the Universe (331pp Hb \$59.95), Edward Harrison, author of Cosmology: The Science of the Universe (Hb \$120.00), looks at our attempts to grasp the true nature of the Universe from ancient and medieval times to the present day. He asks whether it is possible for us to know the Universe as it really is or are we condemned to always hold up a model or mask of our own making and say "This is the Universe".

Peter Ward and Donald Brownlee, the authors of the bestselling **Rare Earth** (Pb 2nd ed \$34.95 due October), have taken their knowledge of astrobiology and used it to predict the likely future of Earth in **The Life and Death of Planet Earth** (240pp Hb \$49.95).

From Alpha to Omega: The Search for the Beginning and End of the Universe (294pp Hb \$59.95) by Charles Seife (Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Number Pb \$29.95), is the story of some of the most exciting scientific discoveries in recent decades and the people behind them. It is an excellent guide to the ongoing revolution in cosmology which is producing a wealth of new information about the Universe.



Judith Hooper's **Of Moths and Men** (377pp Pb \$24.95) is a well-written account of the controversy surrounding the peppered moth, the black variety of which has been used for decades as a prime example of natural selection in action. It features some fascinating characters, as well as some insight into how science is done.

Mathematical Diamonds (245pp Pb \$75.00) by Ross Honsberger (Mathematical Chestnuts from Around the World Pb \$69.95) is a wonderful collection of elementary mathematical problems and their solutions that reflect the beauty of mathematics. The problems are notable for their striking surprises and brilliant ideas. Solutions are provided.

Measure for Measure (215pp Hb \$56.95) by Alex Hebra is an engaging and instructive history of measurement systems from ancient times to the present, exploring how and why such units as the stadium, the span and the parsec first came about. Tracing civilisation's various efforts to calculate distance, volume, mass, energy and time, he explains how units of measurement are applied in such fields as mechanical engineering, physics, optics and astronomy.

Thinking About Biology (235pp Pb \$49.95) by Stephen Webster is intended for biology students who are interested in reflecting on the wider contexts of their studies. It encourages students to see that biology does not deliver certainties - it discusses how biological ideas become established facts. It uses history to examine how ideas change and to show that biological facts forming the basis of a biology course are also likely to change.

In Lowly Origin: Where, When and Why Our Ancestors First Stood Up (396pp Hb \$69.00), Jonathan Kingdon explains the sources and consequences of bipedalism. He uses the very latest findings from ecology, biogeography and palaeontology to build a new and up-to-date account of how four-legged apes became two-legged hominins. Dave

Science

Mathematics and Sex

Clio CRESWELL

192pp Pb \$24.95

You've heard of sexual chemistry? Now try sexual mathematics ... For most people, seeing 'mathematics' and 'sex' side by side is strange enough, let alone discovering there is, in fact, a deep and captivating relationship between the two. Well, it's time to shatter the stereotypes! Join Clio Cresswell on a fun and frisky journey as she reveals how mathematics can unlock the secrets of love and sex, dating and mating. Tackle such age-old dilemmas as: how much should you compromise in a relationship? exactly what is it that we find attractive in a lover? and how many partners should you have before you can be sure you've found 'the one'? Jump into bed with this book and discover just how love, lust and the search for the ideal life partner can be spiced up with a little mathematics thrown into the mix. *due September*

The Science Book

Simon SINGH (foreword), Peter TALLACK (ed) 258pp Hb \$39.95 Featuring 250 of the most significant milestones in the history of scientific discovery, this title offers a unique perspective on our unfolding view of the universe from the origins of counting and the concept of 'zero' to cloned cells and the human genome. Short, lucid essays on each breakthrough accompanied by illustrations make this an accessible work.

Small World

Uncovering Nature's Hidden Networks

Mark BUCHANAN 259pp Pb \$22.95 Most of us have had the experience of running into a friend of a friend far away from home and feeling that the world is somehow smaller than it should be. We usually write off such unlikely encounters as coincidence, even though it seems to happen with uncanny frequency. According to a handful of physicists at Los Alamos and other cutting-edge research



labs around the world, it turns out that this 'small-world' phenomenon is no coincidence at all. Rather, it is a manifestation of a hidden and powerful design that binds the world together. Mark Buchanan tells the story of how a stunning discovery in complexity science is revolutionising the way we understand networks. The Internet, the brain, power-grids and the global economy are all networks that seem to have evolved a 'small-world' geometry with properties independent of the nature of the things themselves. The author argues that this underlying pattern may be one of nature's greatest design tricks, and shows us how scientists are putting this new insight to work.

A User's Guide to the Brain John RATEY

404pp Pb \$24.95

Bringing order and relevance to the cascade of recent brain findings, Dr John Ratey explains the brain's most important systems, the role they play in determining how we interact with the world and the ways in which we can influence their operations for the better. Throughout, he illustrates his points with vivid and often surprising examples drawn from his own practice, research and everyday life. He answers such questions as: What does it mean to be linguistically ambidextrous? How does a mother's cradling of her child on her left shoulder relate to the development of language skills? Why

does listening to music while doing homework improve accuracy? Why do people like spicy foods? He also analyses the ways in which things can go wrong, detailing causes and treatments for diseases such as autism, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's, as well as numerous neurological disorders. The brain is astonishingly flexible, able to be retrained and reprogrammed. Like a muscle, it responds to use, adapting to new demands and conditions, allowing, as the title of the book suggests, the guidance of the user.



Miscellaneous

Blue Note Records The Biography

Richard COOK

276pp Tp \$35.00

Richard Cook is the co-author of **The Penguin Guide to Jazz on CD** (Tp \$60) and is currently the editor of *Jazz Review*. Blue Note Records is arguably the single most recognisable record label in the history of recorded music. To millions of jazz fans around the world, Blue Note is more than a business, more than a back catalogue of extraordinary music, even more than an exciting sound and a distinctive look. It is the heart of jazz. It is Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, Bud Powell, Sonny Rollins, Horace Silver, Kenny Burrell and the ubiquitous Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers - all making their most significant early recordings under the auspices of the Blue Note genius. Here is the detailed history of the label from the beginning days in 1939 when two German immigrants, Alfred Lion and Francis Wolff, began recording and releasing the hot jazz that they loved. It's all here; from the development to the rise, fall and rebirth of cool jazz. From Sidney Bechet to Norah Jones, Cook examines life behind the scenes and a parallel analysis of all the major records released throughout Blue Note's history.

Fat Land

How Americans Became the Fattest People in the World

Greg CRITSER 240pp Tp \$29.95 More than 5 million Americans now meet the definition of morbid obesity...The definition of morbid obesity - being more than 100 pounds overweight! If you thought the overwhelming number of fat Americans is due to innate laziness and/or stupidity, this book will broaden your mind in its attempt to spotlight the 20th century road to Yankee obesity. Crister looks at the ways in which the agricultural revolution, global transportation and industrial food processing have made fat-sodden and generally unhealthy foods (in the loosest sense) available all year round (at low prices and in unlimited amounts), all of which has led to chronic



obesity in the US. He also blames parents' reluctance to monitor their children's eating habits; the marketing tactics of fast food companies, the preponderance of fad diets, the phasing out of physical education programs in schools, and the sale of fast foods at schools to save money on dining facilities. Lower-income families have higher rates of obesity regardless of race, ethnicity and gender. The author attributes this to lack of information about diet and exercise, coupled with the wide diversity of cultural beliefs about weight, body size and self-esteem, but barely touches on the economic reality of buying healthy food on a non-existent budget (a minor quibble in what is an enjoyable and educational read).

Dubious Doublets

A Delightful Compendium of Unlikely Word Pairs of Common Origin from Aardvark/Porcelain to Zodiac/Whisky

Stewart EDELSTEIN

206pp Pb \$28.95

The subtitle just about explains it all here: it's great fun for word buffs. The idea is to find a pair of words with little apparent similarity, but which actually share a common etymological origin. This collection of such pairs enlightens with its explanations of the common origins. Entertaining and informative.

The Invisible Masterpiece

Hans BELTING

480pp Tp \$59.95

10

Discussing the concept of art works from the1800s (when public art museums were established) through to the 1960s, this provocative history describes how art works moved from something which could be evaluated on clearly defined terms through to the idea of an autonomous 'masterpiece'. The idea of 'masterpiece' then became devalued and the conception shifted beyond a particular work to a supreme and unattainable ideal (hence the 'invisible masterpiece' of the title). From this viewpoint, some art movements can be viewed as a rebellion against the compulsion to create actual works of art. It would seem that this detailed discussion of visual art also has relevance to how conceptions of other forms of art have changed.

The Encylopaedia of Stupidity Matthijs VAN BOXSEL

205pp Hb \$59.95

Matthijs van Boxsel believes that no one is intelligent enough to understand their own stupidity. He shows how stupidity manifests itself in all areas, in everyone, at all times. Stupidity is the foundation of our civilisation. In short sections with such titles as The Blunderers' Club, Fools in Hell, Genealogy of Idiots and The Aesthetics of the Empty Gesture, stupidity is analysed on the basis of fairy tales, cartoons, triumphal arches, garden architecture, Baroque ceilings, jokes, flimsy excuses and science fiction. But Van Boxsel wants to do more than just assemble a 'shadow cabinet' of wisdom. He tries to fathom the logic of this opposite world. Where do understanding and intelligence begin and end? He examines mythic fools such as Cyclops and King Midas, archetypes including the dumb blonde, and traditionally stupid animals such as the goose, the donkey and the headless chicken. He posits that stupidity is a condition for intelligence, that blunders stimulate progress and that failure is the basis for success. With its mixture of learnedness and just plain fun, who could think you stupid for enjoying this book?

Why are We at War?

Norman MAILER 128pp Pb \$19.95 "Because democracy is noble, it is always endangered. Nobility, indeed, is always in danger. Democracy is perishable. I think the natural government for most people, given the uglier depths of human nature, is fascism. Fascism is more of a natural state than democracy. To assume blithely that we can export democracy into any country we choose can serve paradoxically to encourage more fascism at home and



abroad." For more than 50 years, in classic works of both fiction and non-fiction, Mailer has persistently exposed the folly of the powerful and the mighty. Beginning with his debut masterpiece, **The Naked and the Dead** (Pb \$24.95), Mailer has repeatedly told the truth about war and why men fight. Here he returns to the subject he knows better than any other writer in America today: the gravity of the battlefield and the grand hubris of the politicians who send soldiers there to die. Here he lays bare the White House's position on war in Iraq. By scrutinising the Bush administration's words and actions leading up to the current crisis, Mailer carefully builds his case that Bush is pursuing war not in the name of security, anti-terrorism or human rights, but in an undeclared, yet fully realised, ambition of global empire. Mailer unleashes his trademark moral rigour on an administration he believes is recklessly endangering our very notion of freedom and democracy.

The Bloomsbury Book of the Mind

Stephen WILSON (ed)

394pp Hb \$59.95

Our concern with how the mind works and how the hurt mind can be healed has led to a massive growth of interest in popular psychology. The ideas of such post-Freudians as Erich Fromm, R D Laing, Alice Miller, Oliver Sacks, Anthony Storr and Kay Redfield Jamison, for example, are almost as familiar as those of the founders of Psychology on whose pioneering work they all to some extent depend. With sections on Perception, Memory, Emotion, Thought, Consciousness and the Unconscious, this text brings together extracts from the key

writings on the subject from all over the world, from the first written accounts to the most up-to-date research. It is not a clinical work, but an imaginative bringing together of case notes, journals and letters, as well as more formal writings that presents humanity's most significant attempts to understand the mind and the way the mind works.



News from Eve Abbey

I'm sure you already know that Abbey's has an extensive Music section. This includes the Dover Scores, a small Practical section, a large Reference and General section, a section for Opera and one for Composers (arranged by composer) and one for Jazz. I looked at the latest edition of the onevolume Oxford Companion to Music edited by Latham (\$120 Hb) and was amazed to find it had no page numbers! Difficult for a reference book, don't you think? Another interesting book (with page numbers) is the Oxford Dictionary of Music edited by Kennedy (\$115 Hb 983pp). I did notice a Cambridge University Press title, Four Musical Minimalists: La Monte Young, Terry Riley, Steve Reich and Philip Glass by Keith Potter (390pp with index), which you can buy in Hb at the Pb price of \$59.95. This book discusses crucial changes in the theory and practice of musical composition and has sold well. Also at the very good price of \$65 per volume is a revised Pb edition from Cornell University Press of the threevolume major work by Alan Walker on Franz Liszt. Although primarily a biography, Liszt's attitude to music and the piano is also discussed. Walker has won all sorts of prizes for this work, including a medal from the Hungarian Minister of Culture. The volumes are: Virtuoso Years 1811-1847, The Weimar Years 1848-1861 and The Final Years 1861-1886.

In the General Music section, I must recommend Guy Noble's **The Music Explorer** (\$24.95 Pb 260pp incl bibliography). I am sure that listeners to ABC Classic FM will already be fond of the cheerful and knowledgeable Guy Noble and will have enjoyed on Saturday mornings his imaginative interviews, in person, with deceased (not dead) composers. He has now produced these interviews in book form, along with some reminiscences of his own about the nuts and bolts of earning a living as a musician and about the history of music. Very enjoyable and indispensable to music teachers. What a pleasure to share in his enthusiasm and good cheer.

I read a nice little article about Neville Shute's books and how hard it is to find them. It was mentioned that **A Town Like Alice** (\$25.95) made it into the Top 100 British Books. So let me remind you (older readers especially) about the House of Stratus backlist titles we carry. You'll find all Neville Shute's books in Australian Fiction, including **Beyond the Black Stump** (\$24.50), **The Far Country** (\$25.95) and **Requiem for a Wren** (\$25.95). Also by House of Stratus, in General Fiction, you will find the charming, much-loved novels by Lillian Beckwith set in the Hebrides such as **Lightly Poached** (short stories), **Bay of Strangers, Shine of Rainbows** and **Rope in Case** (all \$25.95).

The *Pulitzer Prize*-winning Canadian novelist, Carol Shields, died in July. I remember Dulcie Stretton recommending to me one of Carol Shields' early successes, **The Stone Diaries** (\$21.95 Pb), while a more recent success was **Larry's Party** (\$21.95 Pb), which won the *Orange Prize* a couple of years ago.

Gardeners, nature lovers and thinkers will enjoy science writer Michael Pollan's latest, **The Botany of Desire: A Plant's Eye View of the World** (\$22.95 Pb 291pp). An interesting blend of science writing, history and personal memoir, he writes about the apple, the tulip, the potato and marijuana. A pleasing gift for non-fiction readers. And we'll soon have to start thinking of nice little gifts! Or perhaps even great big gifts! Oxford is offering the 20-volume **Oxford English Dictionary** for only \$2,003 (and if you have an Abbey's Card you'll get another \$200 off in Reward Dollars). Where will you hide it until Christmas? Judge Chris Geraghty has completed the sequel to his memoir about training for the priesthood, **Cassocks in the Wilderness** (\$24.95). It is aptly called **The Priest Factory: A Manly Vision of Triumph, 1958-1962 and Beyond** (\$27.95 Pb 376pp). Hard to imagine now, all that discipline and lack of compassion in institutions. Perceptive recall of many other young men undergoing the same training.

David Starkey, that confidently erudite Tudor historian, has been on television again telling us about Edward and Mary, the rather forgotten Tudors. If you're a bit confused, consult the indispensable reference Oxford Illustrated History of the British Monarchy by John Cannon and Ralph Griffiths (\$65 Pb). David Williamson is the author of Kings and Queens of England, taken from the National Portrait Gallery (\$39.95 Pb), while the indefatigable Antonia Fraser has a small hardback Kings and Queens of England (\$24.95) or a large paperback The Lives of the Kings and Queens of England from William I to Elizabeth II (\$49.95). There is also the nice little black book Kings and Queens of England (\$14.95 Hb), a miniature by Nicholas Best, and another in this series for Kings and Queens of Scotland (\$14.95 Hb). Remember there is a separate section for Scotland, Ireland and Wales in Modern British History.

When David Starkey was last beaming on television, stock was not available of his The Six Wives of Henry VIII, but it has arrived now (\$59.95 Hb or cassette \$22.95). Among his many books on the period are The Reign of Henry VIII: Personalities and Politics (\$24.95 Pb) and a superb large format hardcover Elizabeth I (\$79.95), which is the catalogue for a marvellous exhibition on display at Greenwich in London. In Modern British History, there is also a nice collection of essays, The Myth of Elizabeth (\$49 Pb 269pp), dealing with the public perception of that great Queen, both in her own day and in movies today. After reading Marion Meade's Eleanor of Aquitaine (\$24.95 Pb), I used to think Eleanor had the best public relations campaigns. but now I think Elizabeth and her courtiers also did rather well. There is another book on Eleanor by Alison Weir. We sold lots of the Hb at \$78, which is still in stock, while the Pb is \$28. There is also a book by Amy Kelly published by Harvard, Eleanor of Aquitaine and the Four Kings (\$57.00 Pb).

Science: History and Biography has been gaining more new titles. Now that writers have delved into such subjects as Salt: A World History and Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World, both by Mark Kurlansky, and Bittersweet: The Story of Sugar by Peter MacInnis (all \$24.95 Pb), the latest enthusiasm is for the fascinating lives of scientists. I've already told you about Brenda Maddox's biography of **Rosalind** Franklin: The Dark Lady of DNA (\$24.95 Pb) and of course there has been a lot about James Watson and DNA this year, including a biography by Victor McElheny, Watson and DNA (\$49.95 Hb 362pp). A new arrival is A Thing in Disguise: The Visionary Life of Joseph Paxton by Kate Colgohun (\$60.95 Hb 307pp incl index). What a life this is, yet who has heard of him?! He is the horticulturist and engineer who designed the Crystal Palace, one of those amazing Victorian gentlemen who grasped the future with delight. Despite an education restricted merely to learning to read and write, he educated himself and by 23 was Head Gardener at Chatsworth under the patronage of the 6th Duke of Devonshire. I was tickled to read a great quote from Peter Carey's Oscar and Lucinda (\$22) on the title page. Another interesting person is 17th century polymath, Robert Hooke, so look at London's Leonardo by Jim Bennett et al (\$59.95 Hb 224pp).

My heart sank when I heard, some time ago, that Peter Carey was writing a book based on the

Ern Malley Affair. No matter! It is now published and the story is expanded to London and Kuala Lumpur. It is called **My Life as a Fake** (\$45 Hb 280pp). Buy it, clasp it to your heart and go off somewhere quiet and prepare yourself for a literary thrill. And it is a lovely production as well.

Also in Science: History and Biography is an interesting blend of fact and fiction, **The One True Platonic Heaven: A Scientific Fiction on the Limits of Knowledge** by John Casti (\$46.95 Hb 160pp). By stretching the chronology a little, he has von Neumann, Einstein, Godel, Oppenheimer and Lewis Strauss working together in this perfect place, the AIS. Casti admits he took the title from Who Got Einstein's Office? by Ed Regis (now out of print).

Many people have sent their email addresses to get our Alert Notices for new History titles. We have so many new and interesting and unusual books coming in, we just can't include them all in the Advocate. David is now going to provide the same service for readers interested in new Science titles, while Tristan will do the same for Philosophy readers. Just email <u>history@abbeys.com.au</u> or <u>philosophy@abbeys.com.au</u> to be advised of new arrivals. Useful if you live in the country or lead a busy life and don't always have time to come in and browse. Sunday is a good day for that! I see lots of regulars in every Sunday. Join them.

When I began bookselling 35 years ago (yes, 35 years - at 115 Pitt Street), I was surprised how often we were asked for a book called something like 'Sinuhe the Egyptian'. It seemed to be historical fiction and, although out of print, remained a book many people wanted. It never did come back into print, but I sometimes still hear it mentioned today. Imagine my surprise when I saw an Oxford World's Classic title arrive called The Tale of Sinuhe and Other Ancient Egyptian Poems 1940-1640BC by Richard Parkinson (\$15.95 Pb 298pp incl glossary, chronology, map, bibliography and introduction). This is not the popular novel I heard so much about, but rather an anthology of works from the golden age of Ancient Egypt. Sinuhe is one of the characters in some of the poems. We usually keep the Classics titles all together in the long run opposite the Loeb Classics (so if you are looking for Voltaire, for example, you should also look there, as well as in Philosophy), but in this particular case we have housed it in Egyptology.

New additions to the Classics row arrive regularly and tend to slide in unannounced. I noticed **Chronicles of the Canongate** by Walter Scott (\$19.95 Pb 426pp incl glossary and lots of notes), while Michelle is reading a fascinating book that has popped back into the limelight, **The Manuscript Found in Saragossa** by Potocki (\$28 Pb) which involves cabals, mysticism, Euclidean mathematics, sex and Enlightenment philosophy. Sounds interesting!

You don't have to be Of a Certain Age to laugh out loud at **Tragically I was an Only Twin: The Complete Peter Cook** (\$24.95 Pb 428pp), but if you are Of a Certain Age you will hear the voices of Dud and Pete floating off the page. Find it in Biography (although biographical information is quite limited - mainly to do with the creation of the sketches, all of which are presented here). Also new is the Pb of the first volume of Fay Weldon's autobiography **Auto da Fay** (\$21.95 Pb 366pp). Even if you are not a fan of her inimitable novels, do read this. Funny, honest and sizzling off the page.

By the time you read this, I expect to have another grandchild, a companion for Isabel and Will. Alan and Krissy are having another baby any moment. Lovely. Will tell you the name (and sex) next month.

Abbey's Bestsellers - August

Non-Fiction

- 1 The Closing of the Western Mind by Charles Freeman (Tp \$40.00)
- An Anzac's Story by Roy Kyle (Pb \$5.00*) 2
- Weapons of Mass Deception by Rampton & Sheldon (Pb \$19.95) 3
- Colour: Travels Through the Paintbox by Victoria Finlay (Pb \$24.95) 4
- 5 A Short History of Nearly Everything by Bill Bryson (Hb \$54.95)
- 6 The Age of Consent: A Manifesto for a New World Order by George Monbiot (Tp \$35.00)
- Walking on Water: My Life in the Law by Chester Porter (Hb \$49.95) 7
- Other People's Money: The Complete Story of HIH by Andrew Main (Tp \$29.95) 8
- Rogue Nation by Clyde Prestowitz (Hb \$49.95) 9
- 10 Dark Star Safari by Paul Theroux (Tp \$27.00)

Fiction

- 1 Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks (Pb \$5.00*)
- 2 Ice Station by Matthew Reilly (Pb \$5.00*)
- 3 The Bride Stripped Bare Anonymous (Pb \$24.95)
- 4 The Red Tent by Anita Diamant (Pb \$19.95)
- The Justification of Johann Gutenberg 5 by Blake Morrison (Pb \$22.95)
- 6 Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix by J K Rowling (Hb \$45.00)
- When the Eagle Hunts by Simon Scarrow (Pb \$18.95) 7
- Time and Chance by Sharon Penman (Pb \$22.95) 8
- 9 Life's Music by Andrew Makine (Pb \$20.95)
- 10 My Life as a Fake by Peter Carey (Hb \$45.00)

(*All \$5.00 titles are part of the Books Alive promotion for August only)

Now in Paperback

Deep in a Dream: The Long Night of Chet Baker by Gavin James \$24.95

Jazz trumpet player and singer Chet Baker is remembered today mainly for his angelic face and his ethereal singing voice. His life was utterly unlike his music. Vaulted into sudden fame by his work with Gerry Mulligan in the early 1950s, Baker found himself lionised as the Great White Hope of jazz. This earned him the enmity of black musicians and helped launch him on the self-destructive lifestyle that eventually ruined his looks and wasted his talent. A heroin addict for more than 30 years, he soon became the antithesis of his romantic music. A stark, troubling portrait of both the artist and his times.

Tragically, I Was an Only Twin by Peter Cook \$24.95

To his legions of fans, Peter Cook was simply the funniest man in the world. Almost a decade since his death, his status as one of Britain's greatest comedians shows no sign of shrinking. Despite his reputation for idleness, he was a prolific writer who created countless sketches and articles, the very best of which are collected here.

Rich Kids: How the Murdochs and Packers Lost \$950 Million in One.Tel by Paul Barry \$21.95 In November 1999, One. Tel was worth more than \$5 billion, almost as much as Kerry Packer's entire empire. Its founder, Jodee Rich, was worth close to \$2 billion. Less than 18 months later, the 'fun and friendly' phone company was gone, the Packers and Murdochs had lost nearly \$1 billion and Jodee Rich was being investigated by Australia's corporate cops. This is the story of One. Tel's meteoric rise and fall. It is a tale of chaos, incompetence, greed and deceit; of an era when huge fortunes were made in the crazy dot.com boom.

Platform by Michel Houellebecg \$22.95

When he comes into some money, Michel takes a leave of absence from his Civil Service job and embarks on a package tour to Thailand, where he meets Valerie. This leads to an attempt to set up a package-holiday company based on the idea of sexual tourism in the Third World. due September

That Old Ace in the Hole by Annie Proulx \$29.95

Folks in the Texas panhandle do not like hog farms. But Bob Dollar is determined to see his new job as hog site scout for Global Pork Rind through to the end. However, he is forced to face the idiosyncratic inhabitants of Woolybucket and to question his own notions of loyalty and home.

A Whistling Woman by A S Byatt \$22.95

Frederica is the spirited heroine of three earlier Byatt novels. In this, the concluding volume of the guartet, she falls almost by accident into a career in television in London, while tumultuous events in her home county of Yorkshire threaten to change her life and those of the people she loves. due September

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