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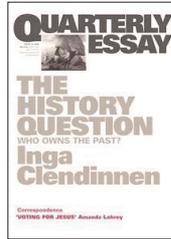
The History Question

Who Owns the Past?

Quarterly Essay # 23

Inga CLENDINNEN 128pp Pb \$14.95

Cleldinnen discusses what good history looks like and, more specifically, what good Australian history looks like. She looks at the recent spate of books on our beginnings as a colony, as well as the vogue for popular story-telling accounts of key events in our past, such as Gallipoli. This is a characteristically original and eloquent essay that looks anew at one of the most divisive topics of recent times: how we as a nation remember the past.

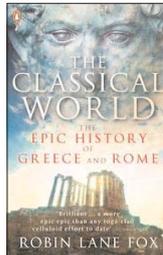


The Classical World

The Epic History of Greece and Rome

Robin LANE FOX 720pp Tp \$29.95

The classical civilisations of Greece and Rome dominated the world for centuries and continue to intrigue and enlighten us with their inventions, whether philosophy, politics, theatre, athletics, celebrity, science or the pleasures of horse racing. This spellbinding history spans almost 1,000 years of change, from the foundation of the world's first democracy in Athens to the Roman Republic and the Empire under Hadrian. Bringing great figures such as Homer, Socrates, Alexander, Julius Caesar, Augustus and the first Christian martyrs to life, exploring freedom, justice and luxury, Lane Fox brings the turbulent histories of Greece and Rome together in a masterly study.



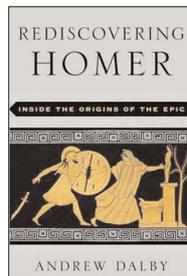
due September

Rediscovering Homer

Inside the Origins of Epic

Andrew DALBY 320pp Hb \$41.95

Dalby delves into the world that first heard the *Odyssey* and the *Iliad*, and asks new questions about the poet Homer. Dalby follows the growth of the legend of Troy from its kernel of historical truth and retraces the succession of singers who re-created the unforgettable story for generations of audiences. He asks why the two great epics at last crossed the frontier from song to writing and how this astonishing transformation from the singer's mouth to the goatskin page was achieved. A gifted detective of the classical world, Dalby finds new approaches to the personality of Homer, showing how the earliest evidence has been misread. He makes a powerful case that both poems are the work of a single poet and comes to an ultimate conclusion that will surprise even serious classical scholars: Homer was probably a woman.

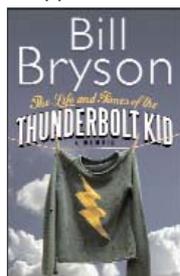


The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid

Bill BRYSON

320pp Hb \$49.95

Some say that the first hints that Bill Bryson was not of Planet Earth came from his discovery, at the age of six, of a woollen jersey of rare fineness. Across the moth-holed chest was a golden thunderbolt. It may have looked like an old college football sweater, but young Bryson knew better. It was obviously the Sacred Jersey of Zap, and proved that he had been placed with this innocuous family in the middle of America to fly, become invisible, shoot guns out of people's hands from a distance, and wear his underpants over his jeans in the manner of Superman. In this hilarious new memoir, he travels back to explore the kid he once was and the weird and wonderful world of 1950s America. *due September*



BLACKWELL MONTH

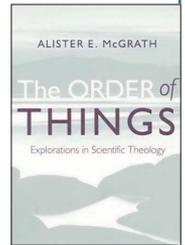
Religion and theology are increasingly hot topics of late and we have seen lots of interesting new books. The excellent range from Blackwell Publishing includes titles suitable for anyone considering the here and now, as well as what happens next...

The Order of Things

Explorations in Scientific Theology

Alister McGRATH 288pp Pb \$54.95

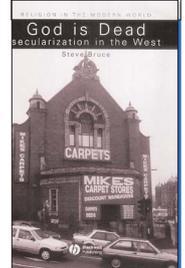
The interaction of science and religion is rigorously explored as this collection shows how the working methods and assumptions of the natural sciences can be used to inform and stimulate systematic theology.



God is Dead: Secularization in the West

Steve BRUCE 288pp Pb \$61.55

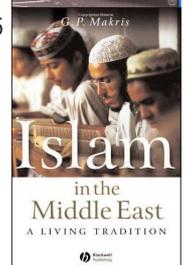
Bruce asserts that the long-term decline in the power, popularity and prestige of religious beliefs and rituals is due to modernisation, individualism, diversity and egalitarianism within the context of liberal democracy. Drawing on a diverse range of international examples from the failure of New Age religions via the Western embrace of Eastern philosophies to Christian cults and atheism, this is a fascinating work of religious sociology.



Islam in the Middle East: A Living Tradition

G P MAKRIS 386pp Pb \$43.95

Makris charts the doctrinal foundations of Islam, the role of religious scholars, the five pillars, the mystical world of saintly brotherhoods and the efforts of Muslim modernists and Islamic activists in shaping Islamic orthodoxy and engaging with Western modernity.



Twentieth Century Catholic Theologians

From Chenu to Benedict XVI

Fergus KERR 224pp Pb \$58.95

This book reports on the lives and works of the most influential Catholic theologians of the 20th century. It includes: Chenu, who renewed Thomism by returning Aquinas to historical context; Congar, who made ecumenism possible for Catholics; de Lubac, who specialised in rehabilitating forgotten doctrines and marginalised theologians; and Kung, who was deprived of his right to teach as a Catholic theologian and became the most widely read Catholic theologian of modern times.

The Blackwell Guide to Theology and Popular Culture

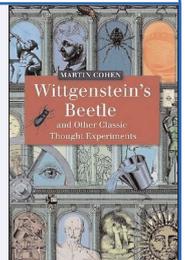
Kelton COBB

352pp Pb \$59.95

Cobb shows how the theological analysis of popular culture is undertaken, discusses the writers who are doing it and outlines various general theories of popular culture. Using illustrations from the pop culture scene, ranging from the fiction of Nick Hornby and Chuck Palahniuk to novels about God, Disney fairytales, and the television series *Six Feet Under*, the guide identifies and discusses religious themes in popular culture.

Buy any two Blackwell titles this month and receive a **free** copy of Martin Cohen's **Wittgenstein's Beetle and Other Classic Thought Experiments** (normally \$32.95).

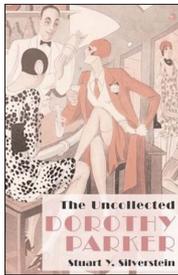
Choose any two Blackwell titles, not just those listed above. We have several hundred in stock ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous! There will, however, be a stand with these and other Blackwell religion and theology titles in Abbey's at the front of the shop. Happy reading!



Blackwell Publishing

The Uncollected Dorothy Parker

Stuart SILVERSTEIN (Ed) 304pp Pb \$32.95
 Previously published in America in 1996 as **Not Much Fun: The Lost Poems of Dorothy Parker** (Pb \$35), this is a must-have for any self-medicating Parker fan. There is an excellent potted biography, followed by 122 'lost' poems, never before collected or anthologised. Included are plenty of Ms Parker's witticisms and some infamous anecdotes that are still as wickedly amusing today as they were then. This constant weeder may have growed up, but I remain an ardent admirer of our Dottie!



Cara

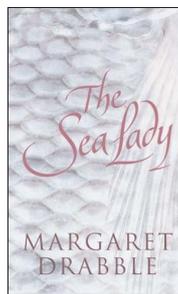
The Threat Within

Karl V 432pp Tp \$29.95
 From the madrassas of the Middle East to the markets of the subcontinent to the control rooms of Europe, a firestorm is brewing, and agent Marco Burini is racing against time. But the roots of the threat go deeper than anyone can imagine, deep into the heart of Washington DC and the very systems that hold Western society together. From the author of **The Ultimate Game** (Tp \$29.95) comes another high-energy, no-holds-barred, political action thriller. And this time, the stakes are even higher.



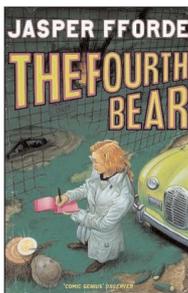
The Sea Lady

Margaret DRABBLE 320pp Tp \$29.95
 Two distinguished guests are travelling separately towards a ceremony, where they will meet for the first time in three decades. Both are apprehensive, as they review the successes and failures of their public life, and their secret history. Humphrey and Ailsa met as children, by the grey Northern sea to which they are returning. Humphrey was already a serious child, drawn towards the underwater world of marine biology, but there were as yet few signs of Ailsa's dazzling transformation into a flamboyant feminist celebrity. In this taut and elegiac novel, Drabble examines the ways in which place, chance and time merge to make us what we are.



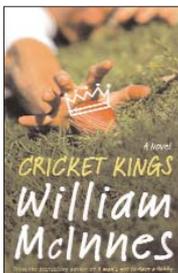
The Fourth Bear

Jasper FFORDE 416pp Tp \$32.95
 The Gingerbreadman - psychopath, sadist, genius, convicted murderer and biscuit - is loose in the streets of Reading. It isn't Jack Spratt's case. He and Mary Mary have been demoted following Jack's poor judgement involving the poisoning of Mr Bun the baker. Missing Persons looks like a boring assignment until a chance leads them onto the hunt for missing journalist Henrietta 'Goldy' Hatchett, star reporter for *The Daily Mole*. The last witnesses to see her alive were the Three Bears, comfortably living out a life of rural solitude in Andersen's Wood. But all is not what it seems. How could the bears' porridge be at such disparate temperatures when they were poured at the same time? Was there a fourth bear? And if there was, who was he, and why did he try to disguise Goldy's death as a freak accident in the nearby WWI theme park?



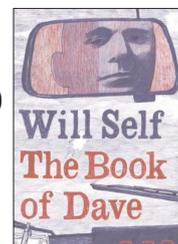
Cricket Kings

William McINNES 234pp Tp \$32.95
 Step into the lives of a team of regular, middle-aged men who meet each week to play cricket in their local park. Meet the bus driver with no sense of direction; the bride on the morning of her wedding who looks out onto the oval that she has seen from her bedroom window every day of her life and now thinks about marriage and her own home; meet Chris who brings the team together and wears foot-crunching shoes just to please his wife and mother; meet the cricketer who only plays each weekend because he loves hearing the piano music that wafts out from a nearby hall. Through McInnes' ability to spin a yarn, the players, their families and the people who stop to watch the game all come to life.



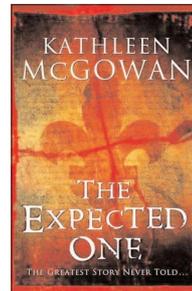
The Book of Dave

Will SELF 512pp Hb \$45.00
 Dave Rudman, a disgruntled East End taxi driver, writes his woes down and buries them, only to have them discovered 500 years later and used as the sacred text for a religion that has taken hold in the flooded remnants of London.



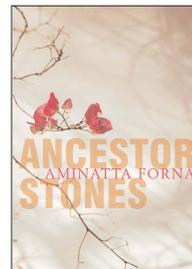
**The Expected One
 Magdalene Line #1**

Kathleen McGOWAN 464pp Tp \$29.95
 For 2,000 years, an undiscovered treasure rested in the rocky wilds of the French Pyrenees - a series of scrolls written in the first century by Mary Magdalene. These startling documents hold the power to redefine the events and characters of the New Testament. Protected by supernatural forces, the priceless cache can only be uncovered by a special seeker, one who has been chosen for the task by divine providence, 'The Expected One'. When journalist Maureen Paschal begins the research for a new book, she has no idea that she is stepping into an ancient mystery so complex and dangerous that thousands of people have killed and died for it. As a long-buried family scandal comes to light, she can no longer deny her own role in a deadly drama of epic international consequences.



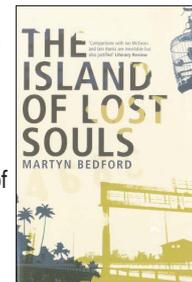
Ancestor Stones

Aminatta FORNA 368pp Tp \$32.95
 Fornia weaves together the voices of generations of women - aunts, daughters and mothers - to capture an elusive sense of Africa, starting in a world poised on the cusp of great change and spanning a century. A grief-stricken chief spends a fortune to win back the love and freedom of an escaped bride whom he'd once captured as a slave; a young third wife struggles to find her place in the cold heart of her husband, and in doing so uncovers his household's old secrets and a daughter struggles to understand a seismic shift in belief as Islam displaces the old gods her mother still worships through the stones of her ancestors' spirits. In tales of love, marriage and war, these women lift the past from their shoulders and hand it to their niece as a luminous treasure trove of memories, of lives lived, terrors faced and pleasures tasted.



The Island of Lost Souls

Martyn BEDFORD 384pp Tp \$32.95
 Finn, 24, is drafted to fight in an escalating war against the enemies of democracy. Opposed to the conflict, disaffected with society and afraid of dying, he sees no way out. Then a stranger slips him a calling card for an anti-draft network and the trauma of warfare is brought shockingly home to him with his brother's return from the front. Just days before he reports for duty, Finn faces a stark choice: go to war, or go on the run and be hunted down as a deserter and coward. If he escapes, there is the promise of a new identity and a new life among people unlike any he has known. If he is caught, the punishment will be brutal. Finn must decide if he has what it takes to exchange bravery in battle for the courage of the dissident.



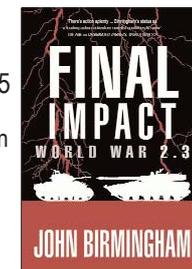
The Saffron Kitchen

Yasmin CROWTHER 288pp Tp \$29.95
 On an autumn day in London, the dark secrets and troubled past of Maryam Mazar surface violently with tragic consequences for her pregnant daughter, Sara, and her newly orphaned nephew, Saeed. Wracked with guilt, Maryam is compelled to leave the safe comfort of her suburban home and mild English husband to return to Mazareh, the remote village on Iran's north-east border where her story began. Far from the terraced streets of London, among the snow-capped mountains and wind-swept plains that have haunted her mother's dreams for half a century, Sara finally learns the terrible price Maryam once had to pay for her freedom, and of the love she left behind.



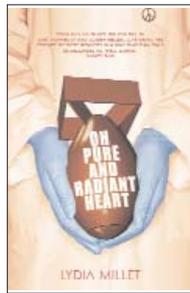
**Final Impact
 World War 2.3**

John BIRMINGHAM 464pp Tp \$32.95
 As history reaches a tipping point in the final of this trilogy, the forces unleashed by the Transition threaten to bring the future crashing down in ruins. Will Hitler and Tojo finish their race towards an atom bomb? Is another catastrophic wave of destruction about to sweep out of a revitalised Soviet Union? What price will Kolhammer and his people pay for disrupting their own past? *Signed copies available!*



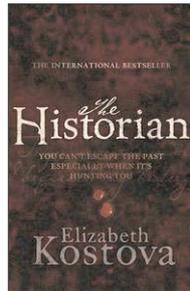
Oh Pure and Radiant Heart

Lydia MILLET 464pp Tp \$32.95
 16 July 1945. The world's first mushroom cloud, produced by the first atomic bomb, rises above the New Mexico desert. Physicists Robert Oppenheimer and Enrico Fermi are there to watch the detonation of their brainchild. The bomb's third 'godfather', Leo Szilard, is in Chicago. As the bomb detonates, all three suddenly find themselves in unfamiliar surroundings, somehow arriving in the year 2003 in Santa Fe, where they are taken in by Ann, a librarian, and her doting gardener husband, Ben. With the long-dead scientists for houseguests, Ann and Ben are swept up in a quixotic quest that takes them from Hiroshima to the United Nations on a ramshackle pilgrimage for nuclear disarmament. As the scientists, faced with the dismaying evidence of their nuclear legacy, cross the United States, they attract a growing convoy of groupies, activists, New-Age freeloaders and religious fanatics who believe that Oppenheimer is the Messiah. Millet tells an apocalyptic fable that marries the personal to the political and confronts the longing for immortality with the desire for redemption.



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!

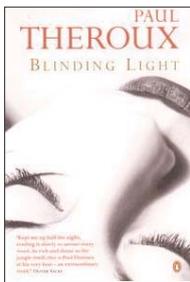


50 Golden Years of the Chaser

THE CHASER 198pp Tp \$28.00
 The group who brought you *CNNNN* and *The Chaser Decides* is rehashing all their shoddy articles from Chaser Annuals over the last five years. Recalling the important stories ("World Trade Centre Janitor Declares: Best Sickie Ever" and "Bali Trial Mix-up: Vanessa Amorosi Executed"); reminiscing over their old gift guides (including such favourites as Barry Jones' Diary); and looking back on Latham's pancreas and Beazley's ticker, this makes for nostalgic reading for uni students and immature middle-aged men the country over.

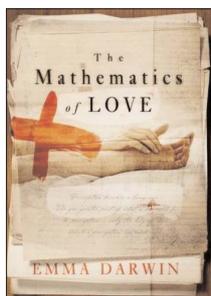
Blinding Light

Paul THEROUX 432pp Pb \$24.95
 Slade Steadman is the author of a world-famous travel book, but has struggled to match its success for the past 30 years. A journey downriver in a remote eastern province of Ecuador gives him the experience he has been seeking, as well as a miracle drug that induces temporary blindness. On his return to the USA, Steadman is rejuvenated - able not only to write and remember, but granted an almost uncanny prescience bordering on second sight...



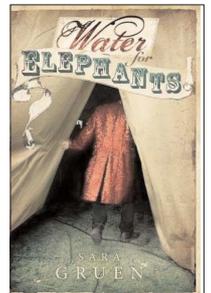
The Mathematics of Love

Emma DARWIN 416pp Tp \$32.95
 From the gentle Suffolk countryside to the battlefields of Waterloo and the ports of Spain, this is an extraordinarily moving account of war and the pain of loss, the heat of passion and the redemptive power of love.



Water for Elephants

Sara GRUEN 335pp Pb \$29.95
 Jacob Jankowski is raging against the dying of the light in a retirement home that treats him like a brainless nuisance. He is 90 or 93, he tells us, and one day a circus comes to town, triggering all sorts of memories. In 1931, when Jacob was 23 and about to sit his final exams in veterinary studies at Cornell University, his parents are killed in a car accident. Everything they own is repossessed by the bank and Jacob, adrift and bereaved, jumps a freight train, only to find that it is not any ordinary train, but one belonging to Benzini Bro's Most Spectacular Show on Earth. Switching back and forth in time, this captivating novel traces Jacob's growing love for Marlena (who is married to his immediate boss), his struggles with the management of the circus, and his attachment to Rosie the elephant, who not only understands Polish, but the depths of human hearts. This is a lovely and warm novel, entertaining and optimistic, with one of the nicest endings I've read in a long time!



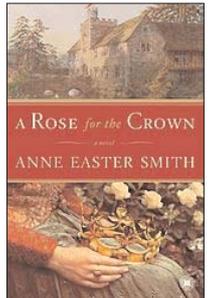
Lindy

Brethren

Robyn YOUNG 512pp Tp \$32.95
 This rich and exciting novel set on the eve of the last Crusade at the end of the 13th century follows Will Campbell as he grows from boy to man, from Sergeant to Knight, in the supremely powerful organisation of the Knights Templar. Far away, in the Holy Land, we also see the unstoppable rise to power of Baybars, the great general and ultimately Sultan of the forces ranged against the Crusaders. When a notebook goes missing in Paris, Will is drawn into a struggle for control of the Templars - and with it the very course of history. A secret society within the Knights is pitched against the Kings of England and France, not to mention the Saracen armies in the desert heat of Palestine. Discovery will spell disaster.

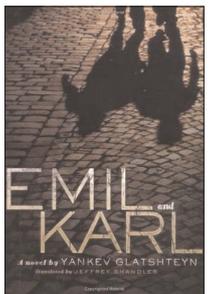
A Rose for the Crown

Anne Easter SMITH 672pp Tp \$29.95
 Here we meet one of history's alleged villains through the eyes of a captivating new heroine - the woman who was the mother of his illegitimate children, a woman who loved him for who he really was, no matter what the cost to herself. As Kate Haute moves from her peasant roots to the luxurious palaces of England, her path is inextricably intertwined with that of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, later King Richard III. Although they could never marry, their young passion grows into a love that sustains them through war, personal tragedy and the dangerous heights of political triumph.



Emil and Karl

Yankev GLATSHTEYN (Jeffrey SHANDLER trans) 216pp Pb \$22.95
 This is the first translation, from Yiddish into English, since the book was written in 1940, but of even more interest is the fact that it's the first book written (in any language) for young adult readers about events leading up to the Holocaust before there was a Holocaust. Two friends - Emil is Jewish, while Karl is not - are trapped in Vienna during the Anschluss with no-one to rely upon except each other, as murder and madness have disposed of their parents. While they are more afraid of becoming separated than they are of the Nazis, it is clear they are coming of age and into a terrible knowledge, ahead of the rest of the population, as they observe the world descending into madness around them. This is a fascinating read on many levels and, as it was written before many of the atrocities of the war became public knowledge, there is room for a little optimism.



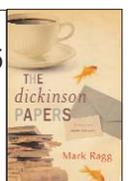
Cara

The Dark Part of Me

Belinda BURNS 204pp Pb \$27.00
 A suburban Brisbane summer - too hot for cappuccinos at Temptations cafe bar, where Rosie is sick of serving stubbies to the workmen. Too hot for old Slob the boss, having a perv at her boobs. Too bloody hot for Scott - the guy who dumped her long-distance - to suddenly phone and start calling her 'babe'!

The Dickinson Papers

Mark RAGG 317pp Tp \$32.95
 A literary thriller, a mysterious love story and a tale of poetic justice for passionate readers. Signed copies available!

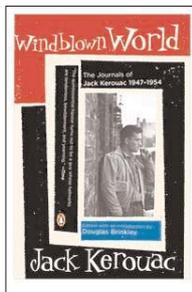


Windblown World

The Journals of Jack Kerouac 1947-1954

Jack KEROUAC 480pp Tp \$29.95

Jack Kerouac is best known through the image he put forth in his autobiographical novels, yet it is only his private journals - in which he set down the raw material of his life and thinking - that reveal to us the real Kerouac. Douglas Brinkley has gathered a selection of these journal entries from the most pivotal period of Kerouac's life. Here is Kerouac as a hungry young writer finishing his first novel while forging crucial friendships with Allen Ginsberg, William S Burroughs and Neal Cassady. Truly a self-portrait of the artist as a young man, this unique and indispensable volume is sure to become an integral element of the Beat oeuvre.

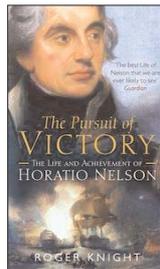


The Pursuit of Victory

The Life and Achievement of Horatio Nelson

Roger KNIGHT 600pp Pb \$26.95

The starting point of Knight's magnificent new biography is to explain how Nelson achieved such extraordinary success. Knight places him firmly in the context of the Royal Navy at the time. He analyses Nelson's more obvious qualities, his leadership strengths and his coolness and certainty in battle, and also explores his strategic grasp, the condition of his ships, the skill of his seamen and his relationships with the officers around him, including those who could hardly be called friendly. Nelson was a shrewd political operator who charmed and impressed political leaders and whose advancement was helped by the relatively weak generation of admirals above him. He was a difficult subordinate, only happy when completely in command, and capable of great ruthlessness. He was flawed, but brilliant - and not to be crossed!



Debs at War

How Wartime Changed their Lives, 1939-1945

Anne de COURCY 320pp Pb \$26.95

Pre-war debutantes were members of the most protected, not to say isolated, stratum of 20th-century society - the young (17-20) unmarried daughters of the British upper classes. For most of them, the war changed all that forever. It meant independence and the shock of the new and daily exposure to customs and attitudes that must have seemed completely alien to them. For many, the almost military regime of an upper class childhood meant they were well suited for the no-nonsense approach needed in wartime. This book records the extraordinary diversity of challenges, shocks and responsibilities they faced - as chauffeurs, couriers, ambulance-drivers, nurses, pilots, spies, decoders, factory workers, farmers, land girls, as well as in the Women's Services. How much did class barriers really come down? Did they stick with their own kind? And what about fun and love in wartime - did love cross the class barriers?

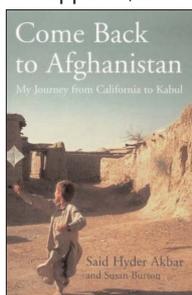


Come Back to Afghanistan

My Journey from California to Kabul

Said Hyder AKBAR & Susan BURTON 432pp Pb \$26.95

Akbar's ordinary suburban Californian life was turned upside-down after September 11. His father, a scion of an Afghan political family, left for Afghanistan to become the new President's chief spokesman and later governor of Kunar, a rural province. Obsessed since childhood with a country he had never visited, 17-year-old Akbar convinced his father to let him join him and worked alongside his father at the presidential palace and in Kunar. Here he interweaves his personal journey with his travels - which take him from palaces to prisons, and from Kabul to the borderlands - to give a dramatic account of political and civilian life in post-Taliban Afghanistan.



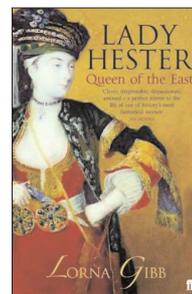
Lady Hester

Queen of the East

Lorna GIBB

288pp Pb \$26.95

Born into the age of revolution, Lady Hester Stanhope had a radical spirit. Following the death of her uncle - the Prime Minister William Pitt in 1806 - she chose the excitement of travel and adventure over the life of a spinster in polite London society. And she never looked back. Surviving a terrible shipwreck and the scorn of Lord Byron ("that dangerous thing - a female wit"), Lady Hester adopted male Arabic dress, became the Queen of the Bedouin and was the first European woman ever to enter Palmyra. Recovering from the heartbreak of a passionate love affair, she became a political force in Lebanon. In defiance of despotic war lords, she offered sanctuary to an oppressed minority, creating a fortress which became a focus of both gossip and awe. Capturing the verve of her subject's life, based on much new source material and extensive travel in Hester's footsteps, Gibb traces this extraordinary life from Downing Street to an isolated monastery in the hills of Lebanon - a stunning evocation of a unique and pioneering figure.



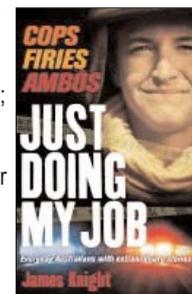
Just Doing My Job

Everyday Australians with Extraordinary Stories

James KNIGHT

273pp Tp \$35.00

Imagine what it must be like to attend a fatal accident in which you know the victim; or to pull a baby out of a fire who is dressed in the same style of pyjamas that your child wears; or to have to knock on a stranger's door and tell a wife - whose children are playing in the background - that her husband has been murdered. You may be called on to deliver a child, or help a family cope with the disappearance of a beloved son. At other times, a day at work may find you chasing a naked man through a five-star resort; being escorted through a seedy establishment by a six-foot-four transvestite; or assisting a drunken woman who has fallen into a shopping trolley and become stuck. Everyday there is a possibility of being shot at, spat at, punched, verbally abused, or hugged and cheered... Here are some of the stories of the unsung heroes of our emergency services.



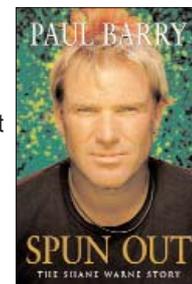
Spun Out

The Shane Warne Story

Paul BARRY

542pp Hb \$49.95

Having shone the spotlight on Kerry Packer and Alan Bond, bestselling biographer, award-winning investigative journalist and avid cricket fan Paul Barry turns his sights on another famous Australian, Shane Warne. He is a walking paradox. He is supremely confident, yet profoundly insecure. He is brilliant, but also a buffoon. He is generous and thoughtful, but utterly self-obsessed. Undoubtedly one of the best spin bowlers in the world, Barry doesn't list Warne's averages or recount every ball he has bowled, nor does he focus solely on sex and scandal. This is a fascinating and unflinching portrait of "a sportsman with an extraordinary God-given talent, of a magician who mesmerises his opponents, of a kid who won't grow up, of a man whose personal life teeters between tragedy and farce". Warne's version of his life story has already been published. Now it's time for the real thing: guts and glory, warts and all.

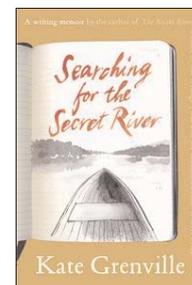


Searching for the Secret River

Kate GRENVILLE

240pp Tp \$32.95

Having just finished reading *The Secret River* (Tp \$29.95) - what took me so long? - I was thrilled to see that Grenville has written another book to explain the story behind her wonderful, moving novel. It all begins with her ancestor, Solomon Wiseman, transported to NSW for the term of his natural life, but who became a wealthy man and built his colonial mansion on the Hawkesbury. Increasingly obsessed with his story, Grenville pursues him from Sydney to London and back, then up the Hawkesbury itself. *due September*



Ann

Royals and the Reich

The Princes von Hessen in Nazi Germany

Jonathan PETROPOULIS

544pp Hb \$65.00

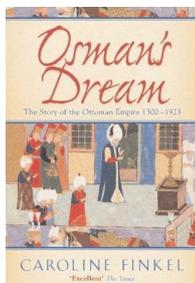
Tells the story of Queen Victoria's German great-grandsons and the important role they played in the Nazi regime. This work follows the story of the House of Hesse through to its tragic denouement - the princes' betrayal and persecution by an increasingly paranoid Hitler, followed by prosecution after the war.

Osman's Dream

The Story of the Ottoman Empire 1300-1923

Caroline FINKEL 688pp Pb \$32.95

This is the enthralling story of a dynamic empire whose impact is felt to this day. The Ottoman chronicles recount that the first sultan, Osman, dreamt of the dynasty he would found. A tree, fully-formed, emerged from his navel, symbolising the vigour of his successors and the extent of their domains. This is the first book to tell the full story of the Ottoman dynasty that for six centuries held sway over territories stretching, at their greatest, from Hungary to the Persian Gulf, and from North Africa to the Caucasus.

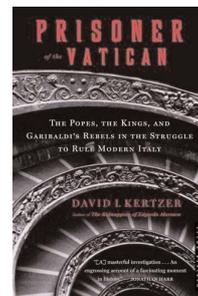


Prisoner of the Vatican

The Popes, the Kings and Garibaldi's Rebels in the Struggle to Rule Modern Italy

David KERTZER 386pp Pb \$21.95

This fascinating history draws on previously unknown documents from the Vatican archives to detail a late 19th century plot on the part of Pope Pius IX and his successor, Leo XIII, to block the unification of Italy and to seize control of Rome and the Papal States. It is a colourful tale, enlivened by such key figures as King Victor Emmanuel (working behind the backs of his own ministers), the dashing national hero Garibaldi, France's ill-starred Napoleon III, and many more. The Machiavellian plot to dismantle the newborn Italian nation involved not only the cardinals and the Curia, but also attempts to exploit rivalries among France, Germany, Austria, Spain and England. Kertzeran looks deep into the workings of the Church in its final bid to regain the pope's temporal power, illuminating the 50-year stalemate between the papacy and the monarchy for control of Rome with a great deal of verve. *Cara*



After Elizabeth

The Death of Elizabeth and the Coming of King James

Leanda de LISLE 384pp Pb \$25.00

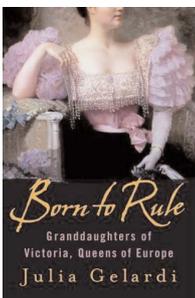
In the dawn of the 17th century, when Mary Queen of Scots was dead and Elizabeth I had grown old, the eyes of the English turned to Mary's son, James VI of Scotland. This book focuses on the intense period of raised hopes and dashed expectations - between Christmas 1602 and Christmas 1603 - during which Elizabeth died, James was crowned, and the ancient enemies of England and Scotland were ruled by one monarch for the first time. As well as painting a superb portrait of court life, de Lisle explores the forces that shaped James's life - his separation from his mother and the violence of his Scottish kingdom, his marriage to the vivacious Anna of Denmark, the failed rebellions, and the government corruption and religious persecution that set the stage for James's accession to the throne of England.

Born to Rule

Granddaughters of Victoria, Queens of Europe

Julia GELARDI 464pp Pb \$27.00

Gelardi tells the stories of five cousins who all grew up under the mantle of their grandmother, Queen Victoria. Alexandra was the last Czarina of Russia, whose family's brutal murder is the stuff of legend. Marie was the flamboyant queen of Romania, whose affairs scandalised her peers, but whose heroism saved her country. Victoria Eugenie was a very English queen who returned to Britain after Franco took power and was the only cousin to live to see a second European war. Sophie, sister of the Kaiser, exiled from her throne after WWI. Maud, daughter of Edward VII, was the reluctant Queen of Norway. This book is an intimate portrait of these five cousins and a remarkable evocation of the family dramas that created the backdrop to the unfolding political crisis of early 20th century Europe.

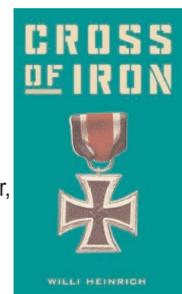


Cross of Iron

The Rise and Fall of the German War Machine

John MOSIER 336pp Hb \$49.95

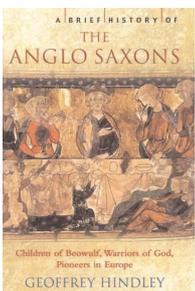
This authoritative reinterpretation of Germany at war is the result of 30 years of research by Mosier, who was much acclaimed for his revisionist history of the German Army in WWI, **The Blitzkrieg Myth** (Tp \$29.95). This account of the origins and development of the German army contradicts the commonly-held belief that the fast ascendancy of the Allied army, matched by the failure of the German army (shackled by its rigidity) led to the results of the last two World Wars. Instead, Mosier credits the German army's operational effectiveness in two World Wars to leadership, doctrine and, above all, institutional memory, as he demystifies the strategic and tactical realities to explain that it was Germany's military culture that provided it with the advantage in WWI. Finally, he demonstrates how the German war machine succeeded against more powerful Allied armies until, in both wars, it was crushed by US intervention. A must-have for the war-buffs *Cara*



A Brief History of the Anglo-Saxons

Geoffrey HINDLEY 320pp Pb \$27.95

Running from about AD 400 to the 1100s, this book shows the Anglo-Saxons as formative in the history not only of England, but also of Europe. The society, inspired by the warrior world of the Old English poem Beowulf, saw England become the first European country to conduct its affairs in its own language, and Bede and Boniface of Wessex establish the dating convention we still use today. Including all the latest research, this excellent assessment of a vital historical epoch comes from one of our most respected Medievalists.

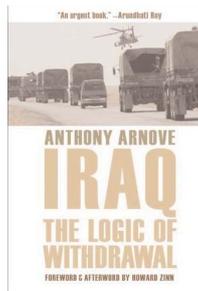


Iraq

The Logic of Withdrawal

Anthony ARNOVE 208pp Hb \$35.00

Yet another book explaining how and why the continued occupation of Iraq is a wildly unrealistic and reckless strategy, one that is making the world a more dangerous place. Conceived in homage to Howard Zinn's **Vietnam: The Logic of Withdrawal** (\$33 special order), Zinn has written the foreword and afterword for this title, lending his authority to a book that says nothing new about the current state of affairs, although the strategies for the anti-war movement are somewhat updated from the 60s. It got very well reviewed in the *New York Times* recently, but I find myself incurious and unmoved by the author's urgency. It's more talk, too little, too late! *Cara*

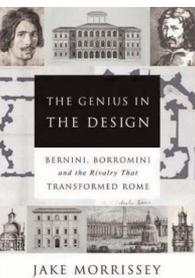


The Genius in the Design

Bernini, Borromini and the Rivalry That Transformed Rome

Jake MORRISSEY 336pp Pb \$39.95

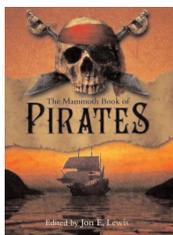
This is the story of the great rivalry between the 17th century Baroque architects, Bernini and Borromini. The two artists - one trained as a sculptor, the other as a stonecutter - met as contemporaries in the building yards of St Peter's and ended their lives as bitter enemies. Talented, driven and ambitious, their dazzling works inspired each other to greater achievement, while taking merciless advantage of any misfortune. One became the most lionised artist of his time, the other, consumed by internal demons, committed suicide. Like Rome itself, their story is filled with beauty and tragedy on an operatic scale, ensuring a compelling read. *Cara*



The Mammoth Book of Pirates

Jon LEWIS (editor) 512pp Pb \$24.95

Featuring skulduggery, malice, terror and opportunism, here are 28 memoirs and contemporary reports of the most famous pirates to sail the seven seas. These accounts range from the Golden Age of piracy, beginning in the mid-16th century with the birth of the 'buccaneers' in the Caribbean.



The Diamond Dakota Mystery

Juliet WILLS 240pp Pb \$26.95

It's March 1942 and one of the last planes out of Java is about to wing terrified Dutch refugees away from the advancing Japanese army. At the last minute, a mysterious brown paper package is thrown to its pilot, Russian air ace Captain Ivan Turc Smirnov. Heading for the supposed safety of Australia, the ill-fated DC-3 flew straight into the path of three Japanese zeroes returning from a devastating air raid on Broome. Under heavy fire, Smirnov miraculously landed the badly damaged plane on an isolated beach on the far northwest coast. The survivors were eventually found, but not before several had died from their injuries or thirst. In the confusion, the package was forgotten. Here, for the first time, is the full story of what really happened to Smirnov's lost diamonds.

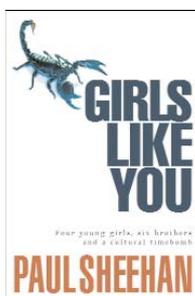
Girls Like You

Paul SHEEHAN

400pp Tp \$32.95

This searing narrative is built on dialogue, character and forensic detail as it tracks the sex crimes committed in Sydney by six brothers from Pakistan and the appallingly light sentences handed down by Justice Peter Hidden. The cases involved Muslim defendants and non-Muslim complainants - compounding sex crimes with hate crimes - sending the media into a frenzy. As this tale unfolds against the backdrop of the gang-rape phenomenon - the rise of which is most commonly blamed on the so-called 'clash' between young Muslim men and young non-Muslim women here in Australia - it is impossible to remain unmoved by the courage of the young women who survived the rapes and the torturous legal process that lasted four years before the final, pitiful judgements were made. Astonishing.

Cara



The Big Questions in History

Hilary SWAIN

352pp Pb \$27.95

Drawing on examples ranging from ancient Greece to Tony Blair's Britain, leading historical thinkers address 20 of the really big questions that have been asked over the centuries about the course of human events. Richard Evans asks what history is, Ian Kershaw considers how personality affects politics, Lisa Jardine looks at the impact of technology on social change, Felipe Fernandez-Armesto measures the influence of geography, David Bell assesses what causes nationalism, and Colin Renfrew considers how civilisations develop. Others examine why revolutions happen, how spiritual movements spread, why economies collapse, how intellectual movements start, and what impact our physical bodies and our private lives have on changing history. Each essay is accompanied by commentary by a journalist, discussing the differing views of other leading thinkers, today and in the past. The result is a stimulating ride over continents and across centuries in search of answers that are sometimes surprising, often controversial, and all greatly relevant to how we live today.



Don't Mention the War

The British and the Germans Since 1890

John RAMSDEN

448pp Hb \$55.00

The Times decided in 1891 that "Germany does not excite in any class among us the slightest feeling of distrust or antipathy", the zenith of a century in which Britons admired German culture and the monarchy was closely involved with Germany royalty. Yet 25 years later, an era of world wars began in which Britain and Germany were twice pitted against each other in fights to the death. After 1945, it seemed that Britain would learn to co-exist on terms of normality with newly-democratic Germany, yet persistent memories of 1940 have continued to obstruct that process, hesitations reinforced by the relentless showing of war films on TV, chants from football crowds and populist gibes from the tabloids. Ramsden's groundbreaking book looks at every aspect of Anglo-German relations for the last 100 years: from the wars themselves to how they have been seen by the tabloids as re-enacted in subsequent football matches. And he asks: "What is the British problem with Germany?" As Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin once said, "I tries 'ard, but I 'ates' 'em".

The Original Australians

Story of the Aboriginal People

Josephine FLOOD

344pp Pb \$39.95

From the wisdom and paintings of the Dreamtime to the first contacts between Europeans and indigenous Australians and through to modern times, this book offers an insight into the life and experiences of the world's oldest culture. The resilience and adaptability of Aboriginal people over millennia is one of the great human stories of all time. Flood answers the questions about Aboriginal Australia that Australians and visitors often ask: Where did the Aborigines come from and when? How did they survive in such a harsh environment? What was the traditional role of Aboriginal women? Why didn't colonists sign treaties with Aboriginal people? Were Aboriginal children 'stolen'? Why are there so many problems in Aboriginal communities today? This rich account aims to understand both black and white perspectives and is fascinating reading for anyone who wants to discover Aboriginal Australia.

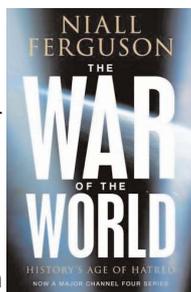
The War of the World

History's Age of Hatred

Niall FERGUSON

816pp Hb \$59.95

The world at the beginning of the 20th century seemed for most of its inhabitants stable and relatively benign. Globalising, booming economies married to technological breakthroughs seemed to promise a better world for most people. Instead, the 20th century proved to be the most violent, frightening and brutalised in history. Fanatical, often genocidal, warfare engulfed most societies between the outbreak of WWI and the end of the Cold War. What went wrong? How did we do this to ourselves? Ferguson comes up with compelling, fascinating answers.



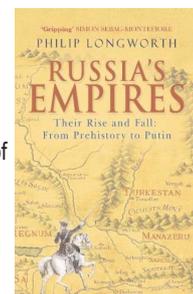
Russia's Empires

Their Rise and Fall from Prehistory to Putin

Philip LONGWORTH

416pp Pb \$29.95

Through the centuries, Russia has swung between successful expansionism, catastrophic collapse and spectacular recovery. This illuminating history traces these cycles from the late Neolithic age to Ivan the Terrible and Catherine the Great, and from the height of Communism to the truncated Russian Federation of today. The narrative takes in the magnificent cities of Kiev, Moscow and St Petersburg, and stretches to Alaska in the east, to the Black Sea and the Ottoman Empire in the south, to the Baltic in the west and to the Arctic Ocean in the north, asking what the future holds for Russia and her neighbours.



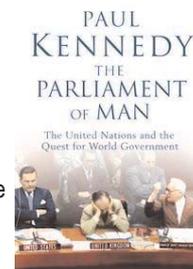
The Parliament of Man

The United Nations and the Quest for World Government

Paul KENNEDY

352pp Hb \$59.95

In the course of the 20th century, there occurred a development unique in the story of humankind. States, which had defined themselves from Thucydides to Bismarck by their claims to sovereign independence, gradually came together to create international organisations to promote peace, curb aggression, regulate diplomatic affairs, devise an international code of law, encourage social development and foster prosperity. The emergence of this network of forms of global governance was not straightforward and the debate about its role is just as heated today as it was generations ago. Beginning with the earliest forms of international organisation, Kennedy goes on to trace the creation and changing role of the UN in the post-war era, and finally suggests how, in the face of new threats to security, the institution will need to change over the course of the 21st century.



Joan of Arc

Maid, Myth and History

Timothy WILSON-SMITH

272pp Hb \$60.00

Born in Domremy, France in the 15th century, Joan began hearing voices when she was 13. She believed they were directives from God and followed them into legend via the battle to wrest France from the English during the Hundred Years War. Joan was put on trial for heresy and burned at the stake on 30 May 1431. She was vindicated in the retrial of 1452-6, but it took almost 500 years for the Catholic Church to canonise her. Joan's life and subsequent vilification and hagiography was influenced as much by the transformation in Anglo-French relations and internal politics (and by changes in society regarding secularisation and belief) as by our evolving historical response to the central issue of Joan's voices themselves. As a very human teenager, as well as a saint and icon, Joan of Arc continues to disturb and fascinate in equal measure.



The Battle for Singapore

The True Story of the Greatest Catastrophe of World War II

Peter THOMPSON

640pp Pb \$24.95

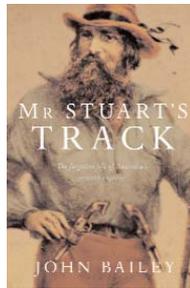
The Fall of Singapore on 15 February 1942 is a military disaster of enduring fascination. For the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the island, Thompson tells the explosive story of the Malayan campaign, the siege of Singapore, the ignominious surrender to a much smaller Japanese force, and the Japanese occupation through the eyes of those who were there - the soldiers of all nationalities and members of Singapore's beleaguered population.

Mr Stuart's Track

John BAILEY

352pp Tp \$32.95

On 14 May 1858, an expedition of discovery led by John McDouall Stuart departed from a copper mine located on the very edge of the known world in the North Flinders Ranges. The Australian continent stretched for another 2,000 kilometres to the north and 2,500 to the west, and no white man had the slightest idea of what was there. It was to be the first of six expeditions mounted by Stuart, then aged 42, as he sought to uncover the mysteries of the interior and forge a path to the north. Ultimately he was to become part of a race across the continent, his rivals being the Burke and Wills expedition. In the end, Stuart was to be the first European to cross Australia from south to north and return again, as the cumbersome expedition of Burke and Wills turned from farce to tragedy. Yet his hero's homecoming was to be short-lived.

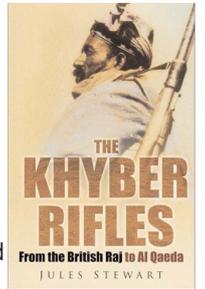


The Khyber Rifles

From the British Raj to Al Qaeda

Jules STEWART 256pp Pb \$28.00

Recruited from the Pathan tribes that live in the no-man's land between Pakistan and Afghanistan, the Khyber Rifles continue to stand guard over this area, one of the world's most volatile borders. Their tale begins with Colonel Sir Robert Warburton (who first raised the Khyber Rifles in 1878) and follows the Khyber Rifles in action as they fought their way into legend during the 1897 Frontier uprising and the Third Afghan War. When Pakistan gained its independence in 1947, the Khyber Rifles took on new duties, including the pursuit of drug smugglers and terrorists. In the past few years, they have been actively involved in the war against the opium trade and have set up the first permanent military presence in the forbidden tribal territory of Tirah to seal the border against Al Qaeda militants. Poachers-turned-gamekeepers, the Khyber Rifles are one of the world's most revered fighting units.



Cara

The Coffee Book

Anatomy of an Industry from Crop to the Last Drop

Gregory DICUM

208pp Pb \$29.95

A freshly updated edition of the best introduction to one of the world's most popular products, this book is jammed full of facts, figures, cartoons and commentary covering coffee from its first use in Ethiopia in the 6th century to the rise of Starbucks and the emergence of Fair Trade coffee in the 21st century. It explores the process of cultivation, harvesting and roasting, from bean to cup, and surveys the social history of cafe society from the first coffeehouses in Constantinople to beatnik havens in Berkeley and Greenwich Village. It tells the dramatic tale of high-stakes international trade and speculation for a product that can make or break entire national economies, examining the industry's major players, revealing how they have systematically reduced the quality of the bean, ruining the lives of millions of farmers around the world in the process. Considering the exploitation of labour and damage to the environment that mass cultivation causes, it explores and assesses the growing "conscious coffee" market and Fair Trade movement.

Kindred Lives

Ned Kelly and Matthew Brady

Paul MITCHELL

254pp Tp \$29.95

Both Ned Kelly and Matthew Brady were bush rangers. Both lasted about two years as outlaws. Both had a reputation as Robin Hood types with the poor. Both had an intellect well above that of the common thugs they were often portrayed as. Both died at the gallows. This book explores the similarities and differences between the two men. Matthew Brady was an escaped convict in Tasmania and was active some 70 years prior to Ned Kelly. His gang's actions had a significant impact on the young colony. Exploring both the historical and social issues raised by the actions of Kelly and Brady, this book is also a fascinating snapshot of the thrilling and tragic events of these eras.

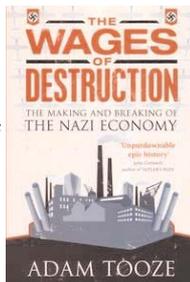
The Wages of Destruction

The Making and Breaking of the Nazi Economy

Adam TOOZE

832pp Hb \$69.95

This chilling, fascinating new book is the first to get to grips with how Hitler's Nazi empire really functioned. There was no aspect of Nazi power untouched by economics - it was Hitler's obsession and the reason the Nazis came to power in the first place. WWII was fought, in Hitler's view, to create a European Empire strong enough to take on the United States - a last chance for Europe to dig itself in before being swept away by the USA's ever greater power. But as Tooze makes clear, Hitler was not strong enough to beat either Britain or the Soviet Union, and never even had a serious plan for defeating the USA. It took years of fighting and the deaths of millions of people to destroy the Third Reich, but effectively WWII in Europe was fought in pursuit of a fantasy, since the years in which Western Europe could settle the world's fate were, by 1939, long gone.



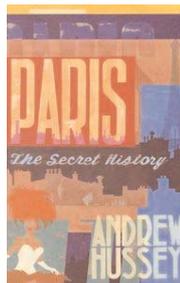
Paris

The Secret History

Andrew HUSSEY

336pp Hb \$65.00

Paris arouses strong emotions. In its long and vast history, it has been variously represented as a prison, a paradise and a vision of hell. It has also been characterised as a beautiful woman, a sorceress and a demon. As Hussey shows in this remarkable book, literature is an accurate reflection of daily life: Paris really is made up of violently different spaces and multiple personalities, always at odds with each other and often in noisy collision. It has been like this for nearly 2,000 years. This is an account of the city's history from the point of view of those who experienced it - its citizenry. The city itself is like a palimpsest, the very stones and street names allude to its often violent and turbulent past.



From the Academic Presses

In **Royals and the Reich** (524pp Hb \$65.00), Jonathan Petropolous uses unprecedented access to royal archives to tell the story of Queen Victoria's great-grandsons - the Princes of Hesse - and the important role they played in Hitler's Third Reich.

In **Religion Killing Us?** (169pp Pb \$29.95) by Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer is a provocative look at the violent content of 'sacred scripture' and what Jews, Christians and Muslims must do to re-vision their faiths away from justifying violence. Post 9/11 attention has focused on Islam as a violent religion, but the author shows that the Bible and the Quran both have ample content justifying violence in support of 'holy' and other wars.

Cambridge University Press has just published the collected essays of Alasdair MacIntyre, one of the most creative and influential philosophers working today, in two volumes: **The Tasks of Philosophy and Ethics and Politics** (both Pb \$47.95).

The new edition of **The Oxford Book of American Poetry** (1132pp Hb \$75.00) edited by David Lehman has been brought completely up-to-date and dramatically expanded. It features the work of more than 200 poets and includes many poets excluded from the previous edition, such as W H Auden, Charles Bukowski and James Schuyler.

An Introduction to Chinese Philosophy (434pp Pb \$65.95) by JeeLoo Liu is the most comprehensive book of its kind. Highly accessible, the text takes an analytical approach to successfully demystify the themes of ancient Chinese philosophy and unravel the complexities of early Chinese Buddhism.

Bart Ehrman, author of **Truth and Fiction in the Da Vinci Code** (Pb \$29.95) and **Lost Christianities** (Pb \$36.95) again takes his readers on a fascinating tour of the early Christian church in **Peter, Paul and Mary Magdalene** (285pp Hb \$55.00). He sorts out the facts from the legends surrounding the lives of Simon Peter, the Apostle Paul and Mary Magdalene.

David Hawkins' **Corporate Social Responsibility** (280pp Hb \$49.95) draws on many contemporary examples to demonstrate the importance of balancing short-term profitability with long-term sustainability and shows how this relates to many business issues, including environmental change, ethical trading, corporate governance and risk management.

Black Markets (288pp Hb \$59.95) by Michele Goodwin contends that exclusive reliance on the present altruistic tissue and organ procurement processes is not only rife with problems, but also imprecise. The author explores how the altruistic approach leads to a 'black market' of organs being harvested from Third World individuals, as well as compelled donations from children and incompetent persons.

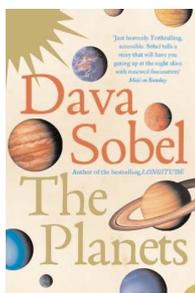
Jane Collier's **An Essay on the Art of Ingeniously Tormenting** (111pp Pb \$14.95) was first published in 1753 and was the first English book on the craft of nagging. As well as being a social satire, it is an advice book, a handbook of anti-etiquette and a comedy of manners.

The Myth of Evil (256pp Hb \$65.00) by Philip Cole explores a contradiction - the belief that human beings cannot commit acts of pure evil (evil is a force that creates monsters in human shape) and the evidence that pure 'evil' truly is a human capacity. Cole argues that evil is a myth that we have created about ourselves.

Dave

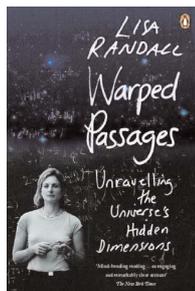
The Planets

Dava SOBEL 304pp Pb \$25.00
 After the huge international success of *Longitude* (Pb \$19.95) and *Galileo's Daughter* (Pb \$24.95), Sobel tells the human story of the nine planets of our solar system. This groundbreaking new work traces the lives of each member of our solar family, from myth and history, astrology and science fiction, to the latest data from the modern era's robotic space probes. Whether revealing what hides behind Venus's cocoon of acid clouds, describing Neptune's "complex beauty in subtle stripes and spots of royal to navy blue, azure, turquoise and aquamarine", or capturing first-hand the excitement at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory over the pictures of Saturn from the Cassini, Sobel's unique tour of the solar system is filled with fascination and beauty. In lyrical prose interspersed with poems by Tennyson, Blake and others, this book gives a breathtaking, intimate view of those heavenly bodies that have captured the imagination since humanity's first glimpse of the glittering night skies.



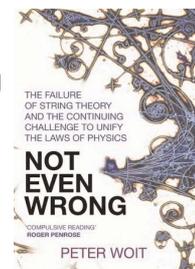
Warped Passages

Unravelling the Universe's Hidden Dimensions
Lisa RANDALL 512pp Pb \$26.95
 Randall helps the general reader understand the questions that scientists are dealing with at the frontiers of research today, such as the kind of problems that extra dimensions might solve and the kind of speculation that is needed even to imagine them. She also gives an introduction to developments in early 20th century physics, particle physics and string theory, and addresses current debates about relativity, quantum mechanics and gravity, describing the questions that are still to be solved.



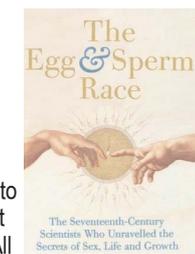
Not Even Wrong

The Failure of String Theory and the Continuing Challenge to Unify the Laws of Physics
Peter WOIT 304pp Hb \$59.95
 Woit tells a fascinating and complex story about human beings and their attempts to come to grips with perhaps the most intellectually demanding puzzle there is: how does the world work at the most fundamental level and what is the role of mathematics in its description? His perspective on this story is unusual since he has worked in both leading physics and mathematics departments and holds very sceptical views about 'string theory', the subject that has dominated research in this field for the past 20 years. In recent years, string theorists have found that the theory seems to lead to an unimaginably large number of possibilities and may be inherently unable to make predictions. Woit explains what physicist's hopes have been, why they haven't worked out, and what may be more promising directions for investigation.



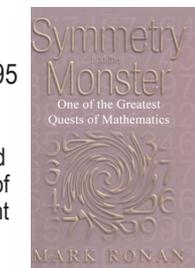
The Egg & Sperm Race

The Seventeenth-Century Scientists Who Unravelling the Secrets of Sex, Life and Growth
Matthew COBB 352pp Hb \$45.00
 For thousands of years, we really had no clue how living things were created. Great thinkers like Aristotle and Plato attempted to explain what became known as the problem of 'generation', but neither really had the tools or the insight to solve the mystery. All this confusion changed in a flurry of discovery in the mid-17th century. In just a decade, a group of young scientists in Europe, all known to each other and in competition with each other, established the existence first of the human egg and then of the human sperm. At last, the building blocks were in place. However, in one of the great ironies of science, it would be another 150 years before someone worked out how fertilisation actually took place. Focusing on the personalities and rivalries of this extraordinary period, Cobb sheds new light not just on an under-reported story of science, but on our very nature - what makes us, and how little we still know about one of the greatest miracles of Nature.



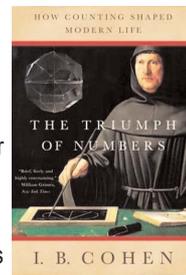
Symmetry and the Monster

One of the Greatest Quests of Mathematics
Mark RONAN 222pp Hb \$46.95
 The hunt for the 'Monster' of symmetry is one of the great mathematical quests. The Monster is a giant snowflake in 196,884 dimensions, with a beautiful structure which it is hoped will unlock our understanding of symmetry and the very fabric of our universe. The story of its discovery became the biggest joint mathematical project of all time.



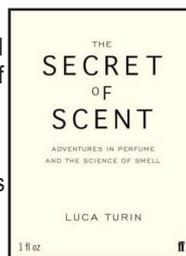
The Triumph of Numbers

How Counting Shaped Modern Life
I B COHEN 224pp Pb \$23.95
 Consulting and collecting numbers has been a feature of human affairs since antiquity - in taxes or head counts for military service, for example - but not until the Scientific Revolution in the 12th century did social numbers such as births, deaths and marriages begin to be analysed. Cohen shines new light on familiar figures such as Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Carlyle and Charles Dickens, and reveals that Florence Nightingale was a passionate statistician. This is an engaging and accessible history of numbers and an appreciation of the essential nature of statistics. *due September*



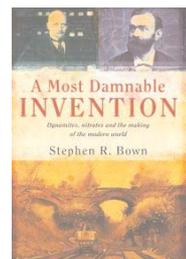
The Secret of Scent

Adventures in Perfume and the Science of Smell
Luca TURIN 256pp Hb \$35.00
 Why do things smell the way they do? How is smell written into the molecules? This book is the story of the quest to solve this puzzle. Turin has been described in *The Economist* as "a man with a powerful nose and a bizarre obsession with perfume." Starting with a tour of the great perfumes and their gifted makers, he shows how few people have an idea of what perfume is or how it is made, let alone how smell works and what part it plays in other pleasures like food. But not everyone has ignored this powerful sense. A small band of mavericks has been trying to crack the code of smell for 70 years. Building on their work, Turin thinks he has succeeded. And like all good mysteries, the solution was hidden in plain sight, right under our noses.



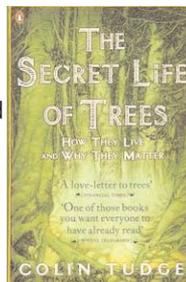
A Most Damnable Invention

Dynamite, Nitrates and the Making of the Modern World
Stephen BROWN 272pp Hb \$35.00
 Humanity's desire to harness the destructive capacity of fire extends back to the dawn of civilisation. But the true age of explosives began in the 1860s with the remarkable intuition of Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel. His discovery of dynamite made possible the industrial mega-projects that defined the era, including the St Gothard rail tunnel and the Panama Canal. Dynamite also caused great loss of life and incalculable environmental damage. With a troubled conscience, Nobel left his vast estate to the establishment of the world-famous prizes that bear his name. As the use of explosives and fertilisers soared, nations scrambled for the scarce, yet vital, ingredient: nitrates. The 'nitrogen problem' was solved by enigmatic German scientist Fritz Haber. His breakthrough prolonged WWI and, when he was awarded a *Nobel Prize* for his work, it sparked international condemnation.



The Secret Life of Trees

How they Live and Why they Matter
Colin TUDGE 400pp Pb \$26.95
 What is a tree? As this celebration of trees shows, they are our countryside; our ancestors descended from them; they gave us air to breathe. Yet while the stories of trees are as plentiful as leaves in a forest, they are rarely told. Tudge travels from his own backyard around the world to explore the beauty, variety and ingenuity of trees everywhere: from how they live so long to how they talk to each other and why they came to exist in the first place. Lyrical and evocative, this book will make everyone fall in love with the trees around them.



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The Cosmic Century

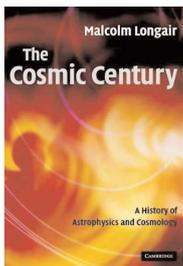
A History of Physics and Cosmology

Malcolm LONGAIR

545pp Hb \$99.00

The 20th century witnessed the development of astrophysics and cosmology from subjects that scarcely existed to two of the most exciting and demanding areas of contemporary scientific inquiry. This book reviews the historical development of the key areas of modern astrophysics, linking the strands together to show how they have led to the extraordinarily rich panorama of modern astrophysics and cosmology.

This is a fantastic story and one that would have defied the imagination of even the greatest storytellers.



Briefly noted...

Janet Browne, the author of the best biography of Charles Darwin, **Charles Darwin: Voyaging** and **Charles Darwin: The Power of Place** (both Tp \$40.00) has now written a 'biography' of *Origin of Species*. **Darwin's Origin of Species** (174pp Pb \$22.95) shows why the *Origin* can fairly claim to be the greatest science book ever published. The variorum edition of *Origin* has also just been reissued. **The Origin of Species: A Variorum Text** (820pp Pb \$59.95) contains a sentence-by-sentence analysis of the six editions that appeared during Darwin's lifetime.

In **Vanity, Vitality and Virility** (259pp Pb \$28.95), John Emsley (**Nature's Building Blocks** Tp \$44.95) explains the science behind many of the products that claim to be able to improve your looks, your health, your peace of mind or your sex life.

Stephen Jay Gould's **The Richness of Life** (646pp Hb \$65.00) contains a selection of writings from across the full range of his work, including some of his most famous essays, and extracts from his major books.

James Hansen's authorised biography of Neil Armstrong, **First Man** (768pp \$26.95), is now available in paperback. A very detailed look at the most famous astronaut of them all.

Gravity's Arc (278pp Hb \$38.95) by David Darling is an excellent overview of what we know (and don't know) about gravity. He traces the history of our knowledge of gravity from Aristotle to the present day and looks at what might happen if we ever learn how to control it.

Lavoisier in the Year One (214pp Pb \$21.95) by Madison Bell reads like a race to the finish line. The very circumstances that enabled Lavoisier to secure his reputation as the father of modern chemistry (a considerable fortune and social connections with the likes of Benjamin Franklin) also resulted in his glory being cut short by the French Revolution.

George Johnson's **Miss Leavitt's Stars** (162pp Pb \$21.95) tells the story of the woman who made a discovery that enabled astronomers to measure the size of the universe. Leavitt was a 'computer' working at Harvard Observatory in the early 20th century and was the person who discovered the correlation between the variability and the absolute luminosity of Cepheid variables.

William Shockley won the *Nobel Prize* for his part in inventing the transistor, but today he is often remembered only for his incendiary campaigning about race, intelligence and genetics. His life is the subject of **Broken Genius** (297pp Hb \$49.95) by Joel Shurkin.

In **Chasing Hubble's Shadows** (205pp Hb \$39.95), Jeff Kanipe describes the ongoing efforts of astronomers to probe the furthest reaches of the observable universe. Using giant telescopes on the Earth, as well as the Hubble Space Telescope, they are gleaning more and more information about the stars and galaxies that formed within a few hundred years of the Big Bang. Hopefully they will learn something about the mysterious "dark energy" that pervades the universe. *Dave*

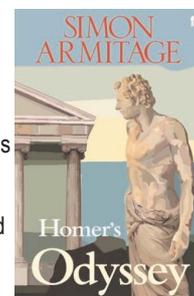


Homer's Odyssey

Simon ARMITAGE

144pp Hb \$39.95

In this new verse adaptation, originally commissioned for BBC Radio, Armitage has recast Homer's epic as a series of dramatic dialogues: between gods and men; between no-nonsense Captain Odysseus and his unruly, lotus-eating, homesick companions; between subtle Odysseus (wildest hero of antiquity) and a range of shape-shifting adversaries - Calypso, Circe, the Sirens, the Cyclops - as he and his men are 'pinballed between islands' by adversity. Armitage's retelling of Homer's epic quickens and revitalises our sense of it as oral poetry, indeed one of the greatest of tall tales. His version bristles with the economy, wit and guile that we have come to expect from one of the most individual voices of his generation.



Ordinary People's Politics

Judith BRETT & Anthony MORAN

254pp Tp \$32.95

This book, the result of many years of research and interviews, reveals for the first time what ordinary Australians think about politics and politicians, and what they consider are the key issues facing Australia today. This unique series of snapshots of Australian political culture takes us from the Depression through the post-war boom, the economic changes of the 1980s to the early 2000s and the war on terror. Based on interviews done during those periods, 22 ordinary Australians talk about politics and its place in their lives. The portraits are sharply etched to read like well-crafted political short stories. *due September*

The Philosophers of the Ancient World

An A-Z Guide

Trevor CURNOW

272pp Pb \$49.95

This fascinating book contains information on over 2,300 ancient Western philosophers, from Abammon to Zoticus. Covering the period from the 7th century BC to the 7th century AD, it brings together the extremely well known and the thoroughly obscure. Those already familiar with ancient philosophy will find it an invaluable and handy work of reference with a breadth of coverage that far exceeds any other single-volume work on the subject. Those new to the subject will find it a useful introduction. The ideas of the major thinkers are summarised and an historical overview of ancient philosophy allows them to be placed in their proper context. A minimum of philosophical jargon ensures accessibility and, as in ancient histories of philosophy, there is also a modest amount of gossip.

Diet for a Dead Planet

Big Business and the Coming Food Crisis

Christopher COOK

336pp Pb \$29.95

This is a compelling indictment of the "toxic cornucopia" that is large-scale agriculture, citing the usual list of suspects - factory farming that serves up pesticide-laden produce, cage-farming with its high-density feedlots, and hog and poultry sheds producing meat that is laced with hormones and antibiotics, yet still tainted with lethal bacteria, not to mention the pesticide, fertiliser and manure runoff polluting air and water. The way that food is now made and consumed is putting the environment and the future of food at risk. As mad cow disease hits hard in the United States and bird flu roils the Asian poultry markets, the issue of food safety has never been more stark. This is a timely reminder that rethinking the ethical and environmental principles that should guide our production and consumption of food is soon to become a necessity, not an optional choice.



Cara

Journey of the Magi

Travels in Search of the Birth of Jesus

Paul William ROBERTS

400pp Pb \$32.00

Who were the Magi and why did they travel hundreds of miles to worship a newborn child? These are mysteries that have endured and remained unsolved for centuries, in part because nativity accounts and descriptions of the Magi vary dramatically - from the Bible itself to the Arabic Nativity Gospel. Intrigued by Marco Polo's claim to have visited the tomb of the Magi in a "castle of fire-worshippers", Roberts travels to Iran and traces the Magi's legendary journey overland to Bethlehem, through Iran, Iraq, Syria and Jordan. In the course of this extraordinary adventure, he encounters a diverse cast of characters, from fearless smugglers to serene Zoroastrian priests, and chases clues from Marco Polo's Travels and the Dead Sea Scrolls to the legends of King Solomon and the Crusader Knights.

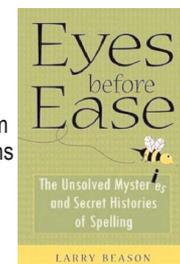
Eyes Before Ease

The Unsolved Mysteries and Secret Histories of Spelling

Larry BEASON

240pp Hb \$29.95

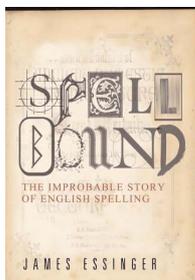
Part guide to better spelling, part paean to an endangered art, this little gem is filled with fascinating trivia, historical asides, astute personal observations and good-natured humour about why spelling is still important - even with the advent of spellcheckers. Beason argues that spelling is more than just the correct arrangement of letters, it sheds light on the human experience itself.



Spellbound

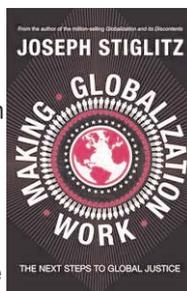
The Improbable Story of English Spelling

James ESSINGER 224pp Pb \$25.00
 Following the success of the recent wave of spelling and punctuation titles, this is an engagingly written, unique and comprehensive account of why the English language is riddled with words that are difficult to spell. Essinger starts with an analysis of the first writing systems, via the origins and evolution of English spelling. He lays bare many fascinating stories of the history of the words we speak every day and reveals answers to the mystery of why many words are, on the face of it, spelled in such an irrational, chaotic and illogical manner. *due September*



Making Globalisation Work

Joseph STIGLITZ 384pp Tp \$35.00
 Four years after publishing **Globalisation and its Discontents** (Pb \$24.95), Stiglitz brings the story up to date, examining how change has occurred even more rapidly, proposing solutions and looking into the future. Here he puts forward radical new ways of dealing with the crippling indebtedness of developing countries, a new system of global reserves to overcome international financial instability, and economic incentives for dealing with energy pollutions that create global warming and threaten us on a planetary scale. He argues convincingly for the reform of global institutions such as the UN, the IMF and the World Bank to make them truly capable of responding to the problems of our age, and explains why treating developing countries more fairly is not only morally right, but (because it increases global public goods) is ultimately to the advantage of the developed world. *due September*



Book by Book

Michael DIRDA 160pp Hb \$29.95
 Once out of school, most of us read for pleasure. Yet there is another equally important, though often overlooked, reason that we read: to learn how to live. Though books have always been understood as life-teachers, the exact way in which they instruct, cajole and convince remains a subject of some mystery. Drawing on sources as diverse as Dr Seuss, Simone Weil, P G Wodehouse and Isaiah Berlin, *Pulitzer Prize*-winning critic Dirda shows how the wit, wisdom and enchantment of the written word can inform and enrich nearly every aspect of life, from education and work to love and death. Organised by significant life events and abounding with quotations from great writers and thinkers, this book showcases Dirda's considerable knowledge. Favouring showing, rather than telling, he draws the reader deeper into the classics, as well as lesser-known works of literature, history and philosophy, always with an eye to what is relevant to how we might better understand our lives.

Norman and Brenda

Colin THOMPSON & Amy LISSIAT 32pp Hb \$27.95
 From the same team who brought us the phenomenal **The Short and Incredibly Happy Life of Riley** (Hb \$27.95) comes this new philosophical treatise disguised as a children's book. Both Norman and Brenda have the feeling that life has passed them by. They are shy people getting older and lonelier, vaguely unhappier as each year goes by. But one day their lives change and, because they both do something a little out of their ordinary routine, they meet each other, proving that "even if you spend a lot of your time washing up at parties or talking to goldfish, somewhere in the world there is someone just for you." Wise text and witty illustrations - a book perhaps more for adults than children...

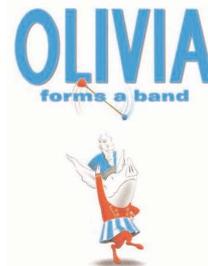
The Camp Quality Laugh Out Loud

Joke Book

96pp Pb \$10.00
 Here is a feel-good book, with a feel-better twist. A collection of jokes and riddles, some shared by various personalities and famous people, it is the special idea of a young Australian, Daniel Staunton, who has benefited from the services provided by Camp Quality, a non-profit organisation that assists children suffering cancer. All royalties from the book go to this worthy cause. You can also send in contributions for next year's edition (www.campquality.org.au). Go on, buy one - as the Camp Quality motto says, laughter is the best medicine!

Olivia Forms a Band

Ian FALCONER 32pp Hb \$26.95
 Our favourite little pig is back! Olivia is off to see the fireworks in the park, but when she is told there will be no band, she decides to make one herself. With a bit of imagination and the use of her family's possessions, she manages to make enough noise for more than one person! As charming as all the previous Olivia titles, this time with blue added to the usual palette of red and black. For a limited time, each copy comes with a darling little finger puppet!

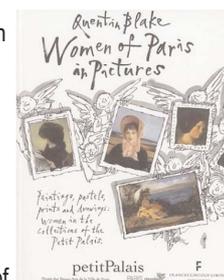


We are the Weather Makers

The Story of Global Warming
 Tim FLANNERY 275pp Pb \$19.95
 This is a concise and revised edition of **Weather Makers**, aimed at the younger reader who may have felt daunted by the original. The same message is here: that climate change is not only real, but an immediate threat that each and every one of us has the power to prevent. Key ideas are highlighted and the chapters are slightly different from the original version, yet are essentially the same. A great addition to any library.

Women of Paris in Pictures

Quentin BLAKE 79pp Pb \$24.95
 Who better to introduce young readers to the wonders of art than the first Children's Laureate himself? Drawing on the 19th century collection of the Petit Palais in Paris, Blake takes over 60 paintings (beautifully reproduced) and groups them loosely under themes such as idyllic, close up, family life, in society and on show. At the end of each, there is a discussion on the works in a chatty, but informative, style. The young viewer is encouraged to look and think their own thoughts about the art. Blake's own drawings add a touch of whimsy to the book.



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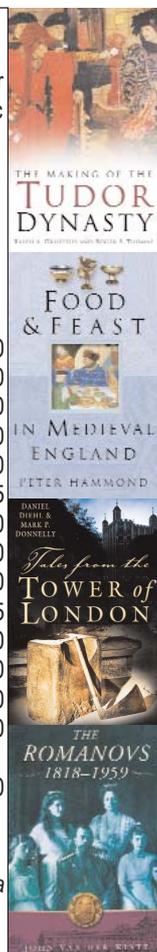
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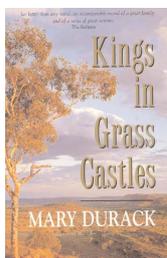
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There's plenty here to begin with and we hope it will encourage you to read more of the hundreds of titles Alan Sutton Publishing supplies to our store. Happy reading!

Cara



I spent most of early August in the marvellous Kimberleys, travelling vast distances and visiting spectacular landscapes and gorges. Naturally I travelled with Mary Durack's **Kings in Grass Castles** (\$24.95 Pb), which was even more exciting to read than usual! This is a book I press upon anyone new to Australia. In fact, I think everyone should read it, and if you haven't got a copy, you should get one. A true story of courage and pioneering, from Goulburn to Queensland to the Kimberleys, which is beautifully written. You should follow on with a copy of A B Facey's **A Fortunate Life** (\$24.95 Pb), set in Western Australia. In effect, you will then have a brief history of Australia up to 1950. Find both these books in Australian Biography. Another good read is Keiran Kelly's **Hard Country, Hard Men: In the Footsteps of Gregory** (Pb \$32.95), which describes the efforts of a group of men who retrace the steps of explorer Augustus Gregory.



I flew to Darwin, then visited Katherine, Kununurra, Lake Argyle and the wonderful Ord Irrigation Area, and even went to Wyndham, which feels like the end of the earth, almost sliding into the translucent waters of Cambridge Gulf, where five rivers meet. Only the pub remains of this once-busy beef export base. On to Turkey Creek, Hall's Creek, Fitzroy Crossing and Derby, where I spent time on nearby Birdwood Downs Station. This station is run by an amazing woman called Robyn Tredwell, who oversees the regeneration of land for an American ecological foundation concerned with savannah lands. Originally a Bush Nurse, she has worked in the Manchester slums, helped set up neo-natal services in Saudi Arabia (where, as an Australian, she was deputed to ride the royal horses), worked as a medic in Nepal, joined an expedition up the Amazon as an ethnobotanist, and now runs the Kimberley School of Horsemanship and a TAFE course in Rural Studies for local aborigines, in addition to her ecological work on Birdwood Downs!

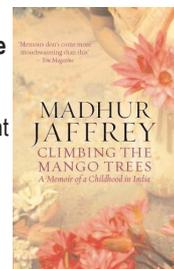
Then it was on to sparkling Broome on Roebuck Bay to see some pearl farms, dinosaur footprints and to watch the moon throw a magic path to heaven! Broome is the gateway to the Dampier Peninsular, so of course I remembered the exciting book I read last year by Diana and Michael Preston, **A Pirate of Exquisite Mind: The Life of William Dampier - Explorer, Naturalist and Buccaneer** (\$27.95 Pb 511pp incl index). Dampier landed in Australia 80 years before Cook and visited the Galapagos 150 years before Darwin. He might have started as a buccaneer (what choice did he have? - after all, he was only a Somerset farm boy with a particular interest in nature), but he became an acknowledged explorer, whose beautifully written and expressive travel accounts were the forerunner of the new enthusiasm for travel writing. There is a Buccaneer Bay, as well as a Roebuck Bay (named after his ship, which landed there in 1699).

Before I went away, I was reading **Josiah Wedgwood: Entrepreneur to the Enlightenment** by Brian Dolan (\$27.95 Pb 480pp, plus another 20 pages in the useful 'P.S. Extra', containing notes and an author interview). I was interested to be reminded that so many of the early industrialists were Dissenters, and I liked this quote from George Courtauld: "The aim of business is to provide for the wants and comforts of the world." Improvements in standards of living and moral worth could be achieved through the pursuit of free enquiry. Not just a case of making money! In Liverpool, Josiah met men of similar philosophical thought and became one of the group of amateur experimenters so richly described in Jenny Uglow's bestselling book, **The Lunar Men: The Friends Who Made the Future 1730-1810** (\$29.95 Pb 588pp incl index). I liked the quote in this book from Joseph Priestley, one of these freethinking planners: "There is universally something presumptuous in provincial genius." They did like to be outside the establishment. (Remember that Josiah was the grandfather of Charles Darwin).

There's a new novel by Margaret Drabble, **The Sea Lady** (\$29.95 Pb 345pp), which I intend reading as soon as possible, as I've enjoyed every one of her 16 previous novels. She says she was inspired to write a novel with a scientific background (in this case, marine biology) after being a judge for the Royal Society's **Aventis Science Book Prize** in 2003. The main character seems to be a very formidable feminist.

I found another treat for me on our ziggurat. Every Sunday evening, as we had dinner, we would listen to Alistair Cooke's Letter from America (\$26.95 Pb), so I was thrilled to find a previously unpublished book from this legendary broadcaster, **Alistair Cooke's American Journey: Life on the Home Front in the Second World War** (\$49.95 Hb 327pp incl index). Shortly after the Pearl Harbour attack, Cooke left New York on a circuit of America talking to all manner of people about their attitude to the war and to the changes. He probably saw more of America than any American. In this uniquely personal account, by describing a small, telling moment in history, he is able to tell us a great deal more. We still sell many copies of his **Letter from America 1946-2004**, now in Pb (\$26.95).

Have you used the excellent cookbooks by Madhur Jaffrey? Even if you haven't, you'll enjoy her biography, **Climbing the Mango Trees: A Memoir of a Childhood in India** (\$24.95 Pb 297pp), which also includes many family recipes. Jaffrey has also been an actress and has written a nostalgic account of life in a well-to-do Delhi household during the last century. I am also reminded that, in Broome, mango trees laden with blossom line many of the streets. Who gets to eat all those mangoes, I wonder?

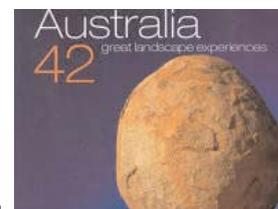


I want to recommend to you a book, which some opera subscribers may already have, issued to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our great ensemble opera company. It is **The Company We Keep: An Intimate Celebration of Opera Australia**, text by Annarosa Berman and photographs by Bridget Elliot (\$49.95 Lp 245pp incl index). Not just the singers, but everyone involved in presenting wonderful opera, whether in Sydney, Melbourne or on tour - even the bus driver! Great informal photographs and easy-to-read text. Also in Music, you'll find Anne Watson's book about the opera house, **Building a Masterpiece** (\$55 Lp), Alison Gyger's **Australia's Operatic Phoenix: From World War II to War and Peace** (\$49.95 Hb) and Moffat Oxenbould's **Timing is Everything: A Life Backstage** (\$55 Hb).

On 18 August, I went to a ceremony at Manly Cenotaph to honour the servicemen who served in Vietnam. It is good to see these acknowledgements, at last! The third edition of **Long Tan and Beyond: Alpha Company 6 RAR in Vietnam 1966-67** by Charles Mollison (\$39.95 Tp 428pp incl index) is recommended. Also in Australian History are two other books about the personal, heart-felt experiences of the men who fought - **In the Line of Fire** by Rex Sadler & Tom Haylar (\$25 Pb) and **Voices of War: Stories from the Australians at War Film Archive** edited by Michael Caulfield (\$60 Hb). All powerful stories that we should never forget. For a view from the Vietnamese side, there is no better book than **The Sacred Willow: Four Generations in the Life of a Vietnamese Family** by Duong Van Mai Elliott (\$55 Pb 506pp incl index).

In Medieval History, I found a fascinating book called **The Medieval Horse and its Equipment** edited by John Clark and published by the Museum of London (\$85 Hb incl bibliography). Although I found many interesting points, this is really for archaeologists and serious scholars. Not quite the thing to send to the Kimberley School of Horsemanship, which is too involved with their present problems, rather than the past! I'm sending them some other books instead, including Carrie Tiffany's **Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living** (\$22 Pb), shortlisted for this year's *Miles Franklin Award*.

Soon after returning from WA, we received an absolutely stunning photographic book from Lonely Planet with many great images of the Kimberley, **Australia: 42 Great Landscape Experiences**, with images from Richard I'Anson and text by John Ross (\$79.95 Lh 368pp).



There are many more choices for you in the Audio section of Shakespeare Studies, including **Great Historical Shakespeare Recordings** (\$28.95, 2 CDs), which offers, among others, Henry Irving, Ellen Terry, John Barrymore and John Gielgud. Remember we also have Audio sections for Kids, Crime, Fiction and now also Non-Fiction.

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Eve



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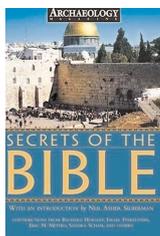
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American Gothic by Steven Biel 224pp Pb \$21.95

A study of the origins and multiple meanings of Grant Wood's portrait of the pitchfork-holding Iowa farming couple. Documents how the piece has represented Midwestern Puritanism, hard-working endurance and the often-parodied American heartland throughout different periods in history.

A Field Guide to Getting Lost by Rebecca Solint 209pp Pb \$32.95

A series of autobiographical essays explore such issues as trust, loss and desire and losing oneself in the pleasures of experience.

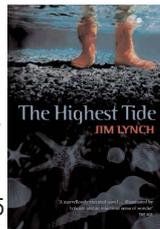
The Lemon Tree: An Arab, a Jew and the Heart of the Middle East

by Sandy Tolan 362pp Hb \$54.00

A simple act of faith and the relationship between two families - one Israeli, one Palestinian - represents a personal microcosm of decades of Israeli-Palestinian history and symbolises the hope for peace in the Middle East.

The Highest Tide by Jim Lynch 256pp Pb \$22.95

One unforgettable night, 13-year-old Miles goes to the flats near his home in search of shellfish, only to discover something startling and remarkable: a giant squid. Instantly he becomes a local celebrity and is pursued by TV crews urging him to explain the phenomenon.



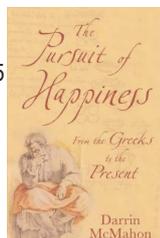
The Remedy by Michelle Lovric 448pp Pb \$24.95

This is a love story featuring an 18th century Venetian nun turned spy and the London world of quack doctors.

The Pursuit of Happiness: From the Greeks to the Present

by Darrin McMahon 560pp Hb \$49.95

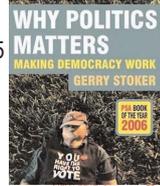
Central to the development of Christianity, ideas of happiness assumed their modern form during the Enlightenment. McMahon offers a summation of the history of happiness and its evolution from divine gift to natural human entitlement. He follows this great search through to the present day, showing how our modern quest for the 'holy grail' of happiness continues to generate new forms of pleasure, but also, paradoxically, new forms of pain.



Why Politics Matters: Making Democracy Work

by Gerry Stoker 256pp Pb \$39.95

A tide of discontent is posing a major crisis for systems of mass democracy: the evidence is clear to see in reduced turnout and party membership and in opinion surveys. This book argues that the failures of politicians have played their part, but equally important are the dysfunctional political stances and styles adopted by many citizens.



Crimes Against Humanity: The Struggle for Global Justice

New Edition by Geoffrey Robertson 800pp Pb \$26.95

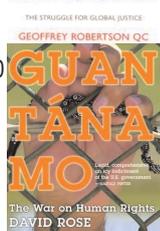
Robertson shows how human rights have penetrated the legal armour of the sovereign State. He sets out the rights of humankind in the 21st century and predicts what this movement has in store for tyrants and torturers, as well as for the superpowers.



Guantanamo: The War on Human Rights

by David Rose 160pp Pb \$25.00

A critical evaluation of America's controversial Cuban detention camp challenges presentations put forward by the Bush administration, charging that the camp is a site of grotesque human rights abuses and is an ineffective tool in the fight against terrorism. Draws on firsthand research, government documents and dozens of witnesses.



Now in Paperback

Birthday Stories edited by Haruki Murakami \$23.95

In this enviable gathering, Murakami has chosen for his party some of the very best short story writers of recent years, each with their own birthday experiences. It includes stories by Russell Banks, Ethan Canin, Raymond Carver, David Foster Wallace and Denis Johnson.

Ripped and Torn by Amaranta Wright \$24.95

This is a compellingly humane portrait of a famously elusive continent in crisis - riddled with paradox, complexity, beauty and brutality. It is a book about the arrogance with which we in the West refer to 'developing' continents, the developed world's overbearing desire to turn people into consumers and the methods employed to do this, which are simultaneously seductive and repellent.

Imperial Ambitions: Conversations with Noam Chomsky on the Post-9/11 World

by Noam Chomsky \$24.95

Radio journalist David Barsamian discusses US foreign policy with Chomsky - the 2004 presidential campaign and election, the future of Social Security, the increasing threat of global warming and new dangers presented by the United States' ever-deepening entanglement in Iraq.

La Vie En Bleu: France and the French Since 1900 by Roderick Kedward \$26.95

Kedward brings to life the great and often terrible dramas of modern France - the two cataclysmic wars, the Algerian disaster, the student and worker revolt of 1968, as well as exploring the special worlds of the workplace, immigration, minorities, the role of women and the politics of everyday life and collective memory.

Churchill's Triumph by Michael Dobbs \$19.95

At the close of WWII, the most powerful men alive - Winston Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin - gather to survey the smoking ruins of Europe at the famous Yalta Conference. They must try to create a future where the atrocities of the last few years can never happen again. But as negotiations begin, the tension and pressure on political partnerships intensifies.

Four Elements: Water, Air, Fire, Earth by Rebecca Rupp \$26.95

Rupp uncovers the science, history and mythology of the four elements: air (from hurricanes to humming bees); fire (from the invention of cooking to recent discoveries about lightning); water (from tidal waves to the health-giving properties of bathing); and earth (from earthquakes to catapults).

Bonjour Laziness: Why Hard Work Doesn't Pay by Corinne Maier \$19.95

The runaway surprise bestseller and tongue-in-cheek call to arms for office-workers the world over to do less if they want to achieve more.

A Perfect Red by Amy Butler Green \$24.95

A dramatic history of cochineal, the small Mexican beetle whose precious red dye has provoked global intrigue and piracy from medieval times to the present day.

Grace by Robert Drewe \$24.95

Physically and emotionally besieged, Grace abandons her inner-city life as a film reviewer, fleeing to the remoteness of the Kimberley, where existence and territory have altogether wider implications. Lying low, working in a wildlife park, she slowly reclaims her sanity.

The Almond Blossom Appreciation Society by Chris Stewart Pb \$22.95

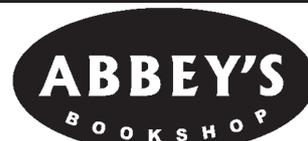
In this sequel to *Driving Over Lemons* and *Parrot in the Pepper Tree* (both Pb \$18.95), Chris and his family are still at El Valero, their farm on the wrong side of the river in rural Andalucia.

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey, David Hall, Lindy Jones, Ann Leahy & Cara Willetts.

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