

ABBHEY'S ADVOCATE

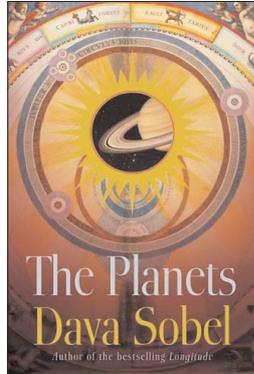
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The Planets

Dava SOBEL 288pp Hb \$35.00

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 when the first pictures from Cassini at Saturn were recently beamed to earth, 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.



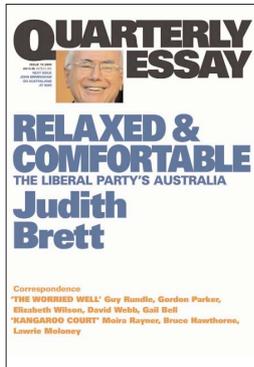
Special Offer: Buy a copy this month and go in the draw to win one of four family passes to the Sydney Observatory worth \$40 each.

**Labour day
Monday 3 October
Open 10am -5pm**

Relaxed & Comfortable The Liberal Party's Australia Quarterly Essay #19

Judith BRETT 144pp Pb \$13.95

Australians are relaxed and comfortable with the Liberal Party. What is the party doing right? What is its core appeal to Australian voters? Has John Howard made a dramatic break with the past, or is he simply our Robert Menzies? For Brett, author of **Australian Liberals and the Moral Middle Class** (Pb \$37.95), the Howard government has done what successful Liberal governments have always done: it has appealed to those largely uninterested in politics and it has laid claim to the mainstream. Through fascinating interviews, Brett gets the dirt from ordinary voters on why they are so happy to vote Liberal. By her account, the Howard government is not a populist one, nor is the Prime Minister morally much worse than many other politicians (although he has done some horrible things). For Brett, the "elite" dislike of the Liberals has its roots partly in anti-suburbanism, a theme that needs urgent discussion. Full of provocative new ideas, this is not another exercise in Howard-bashing. Brett will inject new life into Australian political debate and, with her media profile, a lively campaign is assured.



70 YEARS 70 POCKET PENGUINS

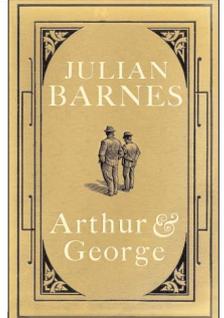
See page 9 for a full list of titles and chance to win a full set.



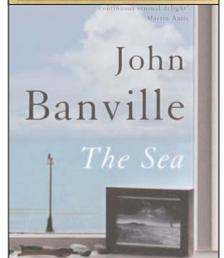
The Man Booker Prize for Fiction - 2005 Shortlist

Arthur & George by Julian Barnes 352pp Hb \$49.95

Arthur and George grow up worlds apart in late 19th century Britain: Arthur in shabby-genteel Edinburgh, George in the vicarage of a small Staffordshire village. Arthur becomes a doctor and then a writer; George a solicitor in Birmingham. Barnes brings to life this long-forgotten case and the inner lives of these two very different men with stunning clarity.

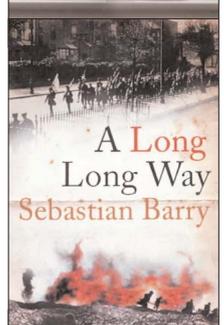


The Sea by John Banville 200pp Tp \$30.00
This is both a reconciliation with loss and an extraordinary meditation on identity and remembrance. Utterly compelling, profoundly moving and illuminating, it is unquestionably one of the finest works yet from a sublime master of language.



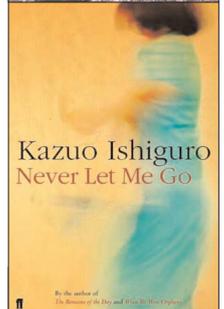
A Long Long Way by Sebastian Barry 304pp Tp \$29.95

Barely 18 years old, Willie Dunne leaves Dublin in 1914 to fight for the Allied cause, largely unaware of the growing political and religious tensions festering back home.

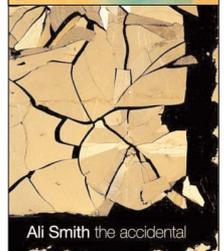


Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro 272pp Tp \$29.95

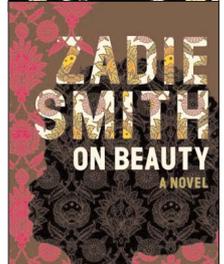
A select group of children attended Hailsham - an unusual school - and grew into gifted adults. The school was disbanded, a failed social experiment which did more harm than good in both the long and short terms of its graduates, yet an odour of strangeness still lingers. The gift that Kathy, Tommy and Ruth share in varying degrees is deeply unsettling, as is this extraordinary tale. It haunted me for days and I had to re-read it to make sure I hadn't imagined it all. This is my pick for the year, it's seriously good. *Cara*



The Accidental by Ali Smith 320pp Hb \$39.95
Eve chose the Norfolk holiday home for her troubled family because of its 'elegant summerhouse with internet connection point' where she can get on with researching and writing her next book. The advert turned out to be a fraud, but then Eve's a bit of a fraud too. She hasn't written a word all summer. Then Amber arrived one day and just didn't leave...



On Beauty by Zadie Smith 432pp Tp \$29.95
Professor Howard Belsey has done something stupid. And what's more, it is the stupid something which men his age seem programmed by cliché to act out. Exiled in his own home by the hurt and anger of his wife, Kiki, and the disapproval of his three kids, Jerome, Zora and Levi, Howard is about to see his role in the family further undermined by the arrival - in their East Coast college town of Wellington, Mass - of his nemesis, British academic Monty Kipps.



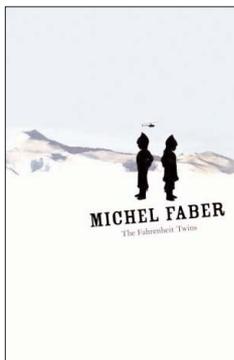
Winner announced 10 October.

The Fahrenheit Twins

Michael FABER 276pp Pb \$23.00

At last, a new collection of short stories from one of my favourite authors - he surprises and delights me with 16 of the 17 tales. *The Safehouse* is spare and bleak, a tragic vision of a possible future which chills the heart and can be compared to Kazuo Ishiguro at his best. *The Smallness of Action* is alienation from self and the world, horrific sorrow and the grimmest of humour, whereas *Vanilla-Bright Like Eminem* is a microcosm of parental happiness, deliberately and consciously savoured. *Explaining Coconuts* is utterly compelling and weirdly erotic as Miss Soedhono's presentation lecture scales heights of pleasure undreamt of. *Someone to Kiss it Better* could end up terrifying a generation of bunny-hugging, trendy lefties into complete submission to the rough-neck brigade. Suffice to say this is the one short story collection you MUST own!

Cara

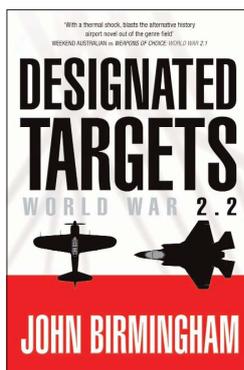


Designated Targets

World War 2.2

John BIRMINGHAM 480pp Tp \$30.00

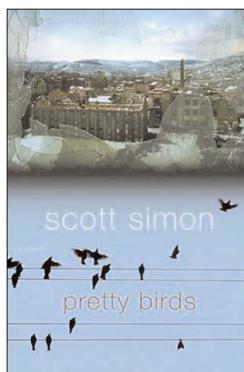
In this, the second instalment in the *Axis of Time* trilogy, the battle lines of World War II are being redrawn in dangerous and unpredictable ways, leaving the Allied forces scrambling for control and the Axis forces with undreamt-of power. But the military crisis is only the beginning. An awareness of how their future unfolds is sweeping the world, and the people of 1942 are split between clamouring for change and the freedoms their descendants enjoy, and resisting it to protect the values of their society. Then Japan invades Australia, foreign agents begin a campaign of terror in the USA, and Germany prepares for an all-out attack on Britain. The 21st century forces must resort to the most extreme measures yet...



Pretty Birds

Scott SIMON 351pp Tp \$32.95

In the spring of 1992, Irena Zaric is a star on her high school basketball team, a tough, funny teenager who has taught her parrot, Pretty Bird, to do a decent imitation of a ball hitting a hoop. But while she shoots baskets with her friends, her beloved Sarajevo becomes a battleground. When the violence and terror of "ethnic-cleansing" against Muslims begins, Irena and her family, brutalised by Serb soldiers, flee for safety across the river that divides the city. If once Irena knew of war only from movies and history books, now she knows it in reality. She steals from the dead to buy food. She scuttles beneath windows in her own home to dodge bullets. She risks her life to communicate with an old Serb school friend and team mate. In a city starved for work, a former assistant principal offers her a vague job, "duties as assigned". She begins by sweeping floors, but soon, under the tutelage of a cast of rogues and heroes, she becomes a sniper - learning to bide her time and identify the "mist" around the target that marks a successful shot. Ultimately, her new vocation leads to cataclysmic consequences for herself and those she loves.



Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living

Carrie TIFFANY 256pp Pb \$22.00

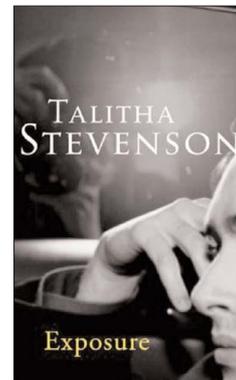
This charming little story set during the depression in Australia sees the meeting and marriage of two idealistic people who set out to improve farming methods in their rural community. Their hearts are poured into the effort that is hampered by the conditions, both environmental and economic. Your heart feels the pain that many people would have undergone in that time as their lives were ripped from the comfortable bedrock.

Christian

Exposure

Talitha STEVENSON 408pp Hb \$35.00

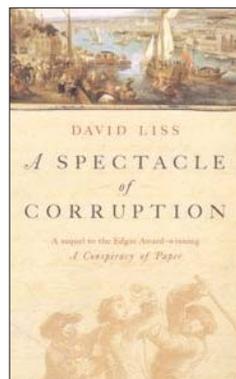
Alistair Langford, a high-powered lawyer, has at long last achieved 'almost all' his immense ambitions. But in the course of just one evening, he recklessly destroys it all. The scandal threatens his marriage, his family and even his own identity. Quite suddenly, a secret he has kept hidden all his adult life is exposed. Meanwhile, his son Luke is obsessed with a beautiful actress and refuses to believe that their love has ended. His ideals in tatters, he seeks a kind of redemption by helping two Kosovan asylum seekers. But illegal night shifts merge uneasily with the parties of the young and wealthy, and the collision of the two worlds proves dangerous. Desperate and in the unlikely possession of a gun, Luke is being led down a dark and violent path. Stevenson's second novel is a highly suspenseful story about sexual obsession, identity and the dangers of self-deceit.



A Spectacle of Corruption

David LISS 392pp Pb \$22.95

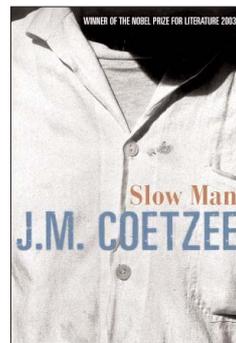
Benjamin Weaver is awaiting death in Newgate Gaol. Mysteriously convicted for a murder he didn't commit by a judge determined to see him hang, he is suddenly - and equally mysteriously - offered the means to escape. What, you may well ask, is going on? It's a question Weaver asks himself as he slinks out into the London night on a mission to clear his name. In doing so, he steps straight into a labyrinthine plot that weaves, like Benjamin, across 18th century London. For the conspiracy against him is part of a grimmer and gaudier picture: one that encompasses double-dealings and dockworkers, the extorting of a priest and a looming election with the potential to spark a revolution and topple the monarchy. Handily, Weaver is a private investigator. He's also a retired boxing champion, which is also a good thing when it comes to dealing with the 'polite' society of plotters and politicians, power-brokers, crime lords, assassins and spies. At the apex of which sits, rather precariously, a recent import from Hanover: The King.



Slow Man

J M COETZEE 272pp Hb \$45.00

Paul Rayment is on the threshold of a comfortable old age when a calamitous cycling accident results in the amputation of a leg. Humiliated, his body truncated, his life circumscribed, he turns away from his friends. He hires a nurse named Marijana, who tactfully and efficiently ministers to his needs, but his feelings for her are complicated by the sudden arrival on his doorstep of the celebrated Australian novelist Elizabeth Costello and her intent to examine his inner life.

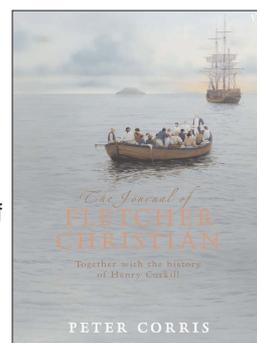


The Journal of Fletcher Christian

Peter CORRIS

283pp Tp \$32.95

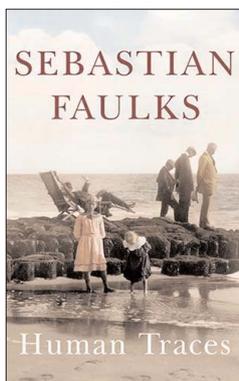
While researching his family ancestry, Corris discovers an old Manx connection to history's most famous mutineer, Fletcher Christian. Years later, a mysterious parcel addressed to Corris arrives, containing two old journals. The first, an intimate and adventurous chronicle of American Henry Corkill's life at sea, is inextricably bound through history and blood to the second - that of Fletcher Christian, acting lieutenant on the *Bounty* and English rebel. Translated from 18th century Manx, Christian's journal reveals the dark and violent history of the mutiny and the fateful beginnings of Pitcairn Island.



Human Traces

Sebastian FAULKES

Jacques Rebiere and Thomas Midwinter, both 16 when the story starts in 1876, come from different countries and contrasting families. They are united by an ambition to understand how the mind works and whether madness is the price we pay for being human. As psychiatrists, their quest takes them from the squalor of a Victorian lunatic asylum to the crowded lecture halls of the renowned Professor Charcot in Paris; from the heights of the Sierra Madre in California to the plains of unexplored Africa. Their search is made urgent by the case of Jacques's brother Olivier, whose severe illness has no name. Thomas's sister Sonia becomes the pivotal figure in the volatile relationship between the two men, which threatens to explode with the arrival in their Austrian sanatorium of an enigmatic patient, Fraulein Katharina von A, whose illness epitomises all that divides them. As the concerns of the old century fade and the First World War divides Europe, the novel rises to a climax in which the value of what it means to be alive seems to hang in the balance. This is Faulkes's most ambitious novel yet, as it explores the question of what kind of beings men and women really are.



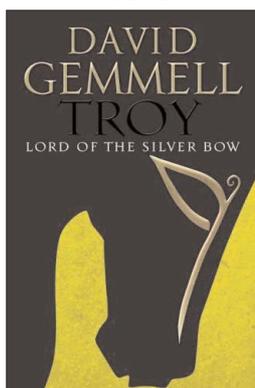
642pp Tp \$32.95

Troy

Lord of the Silver Bow

David GEMMELL

In this first novel of an epic trilogy, Gemmell combines vivid characterisation with a wealth of historical detail in a compelling tale of love and hatred, ambition and rivalry, peace and war. Three lives will change the destiny of nations. Helikaon, the young prince of Dardania, haunted by a scarred and traumatic childhood; the priestess Andromache, whose fiery spirit and fierce independence threatens the might of kings; and the legendary warrior Argurios, cloaked in loneliness and driven only by thoughts of revenge. In Troy, they find a city torn apart by destructive rivalries - a maelstrom of jealousy, deceit and murderous treachery. Beyond its fabled walls, blood-hungry enemies eye its riches and plot its downfall in this time of bravery and betrayal, bloodshed and fear.



449pp Tp \$32.95

Children's

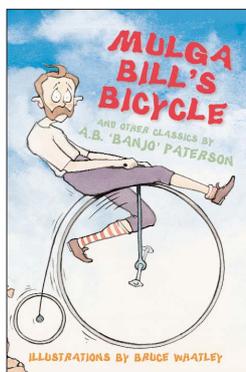
reviewed by Lindy Jones

Mulga Bill's Bicycle And Other Classics

A B 'Banjo' PATERSON

144pp Pb \$14.95

A selection of poems and a few short stories as well, illustrated with line drawings by Bruce Whatley. A very nice introduction to (amongst others) *Mulga Bill*, *Clancy*, *The Geebung Polo Club*, *The Bush Christening* and of course, *The Man from Snowy River* (and *Ironbark*, as well).



Treasure Island

Robert Louis STEVENSON

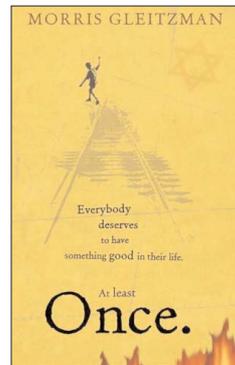
192pp Hb \$39.95

This is a stunningly attractive edition of the classic tale of pirates and adventure. Robert Ingpen has created amazing illustrations in a range of sepia browns, greenish greys and muted blues; the pages are parchment coloured; a skull-and-crossbones is embossed on the front cover under the dustjacket and the book is beautifully bound. All this adds up to a volume which would be a pleasure to give, receive or own!

Once

Morris GLEITZMAN 150pp Pb \$16.95

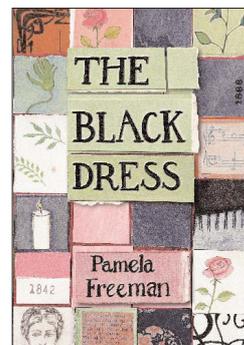
Felix has been waiting for his bookseller parents to collect him from the remote Catholic orphanage where they left him 3 years and 8 months ago. When Nazis visit the convent and burn books, he decides to warn his folks and sets off for the town they lived in. Along the way, he rescues a little girl, is rescued himself by a dentist and sees sights no-one should ever experience. Somehow, though, he retains an innocence and a belief that he has been lucky. A very moving story - one of Gleitzman's best.



The Black Dress

Pamela FREEMAN 256pp Pb \$17.95

At the end of a full life, Mary MacKillop looks back on her childhood and the events which led to her becoming a nun. Born to Scottish Catholic migrants, as the eldest child she quickly learned to be dependable and steadfast, particularly as her father was an impractical and stubborn idealist who kept expecting his wife and family to adapt to his whims. Quite beautifully told, this fictional realisation of the motivations of Mary, her early privations and influences, feels both true to the time and the person. Ages 12+



The Outcasts of 19 Schulyer Place

E L KONIGSBURG

279pp Pb \$14.95

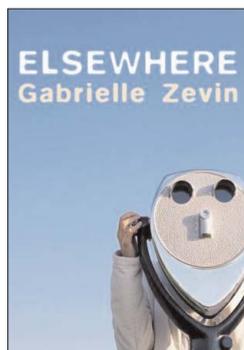
Margaret Rose, in the year she is 12, is sent to a summer camp, instead of accompanying her academic parents on a dig in Peru, or staying with her beloved great-uncles. Bullied and unhappy at the camp, she is rescued by her uncle Alex and discovers the reason she was sent away from her family. Her uncles had spent the last 45 years constructing towers of great beauty in their backyard, which the newly gentrified urban community has persuaded the local council to demolish as illegal structures. Margaret Rose is about to learn a great deal - and in a very short time. A warm and finely written novel.

Elsewhere

Gabrielle ZEVIN

273pp Pb \$15.95

Liz, nearly 16, forgets to look both ways crossing the road and is killed in a hit-and-run accident. Doesn't sound like a good start, but this is an uplifting story about her life after death. 'Elsewhere' is not so much the afterlife, as how you get to live afterwards. People (and dogs and other pets) age backwards, and the lessons they learnt whilst living can be applied to this time - a chance to do better. Imaginative and charming.



Little Penguin

The Life of Eudyptula Minor

Josie MONTANO & Matt OTTLEY

32pp Hb \$27.95

Eudyptula lives a simple life - he is hatched, looked after for 10 weeks, finally grows up and marries the love of his life, digs a burrow (with great ocean views), works, has children and lives to the ripe old penguin age of seven. Rather witty illustrations depict the little bird in his penguin suit going about his days, with plenty of references for the adult reader to enjoy, and colourful details for the youngster to pore over. (The second last spread is particularly appealing!)

Fair Dinkum Histories

Grim Crims and Convicts

Jackie FRENCH

198pp Pb \$14.95

The first in a new series with the aim of making Australian history accessible in an entertaining manner, a la *Horrible Histories*. Plenty of factual information illustrated in likeable and witty style by Peter Sheehan, this book covers 1788-1820. Ages 8-12

Where Soldiers Fear to Tread At Work in the Fields of Anarchy

John BURNETT

350pp Hb \$55.00

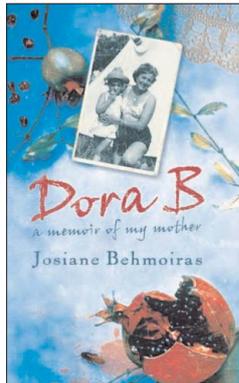
In 1998, John Burnett left the comforts of the mainstream and became a UN relief worker. On the lookout for adventure and willing to take a risk, he was nevertheless completely unprepared for the realities of working in a country without government or law, where the only authority that matters comes from a loaded gun. From his lack of proper tools and communication gear to the tragedy of watching a baby die of malaria in his arms and the gut-wrenching terror of being held up at gunpoint by a child soldier, the experience of being an aid worker drastically changed the way he saw the world. It also profoundly shocked him to realise the casualness with which unarmed and untrained civilians were sent into literally explosive situations to try to help, and to understand how even the distribution of aid in the face of catastrophe can be seen as a political act.

Dora B

A Memoir of my Mother

Josiane BEHMOIRAS 264pp Hb \$24.95

It is 1961 in Montpellier, France. Dora and her eight-year-old daughter Josiane have been arrested, unable to provide on demand the one franc coin to prove - according to the law - that they are not vagrants. To the detective that holds her identity papers in his hand, the solution is simple. They are penniless, unwanted, itinerant and Jewish: they must be shipped back to The Promised Land. And so Dora and Josiane begin their new life in Israel - a place of warm sand-dunes and sweet oranges, of pomegranate juice and mint tea poured from silver teapots. But this fresh start comes at a price. Dora, always convinced that she is the victim of some kind of conspiracy, fretfully searches for the tiny microphones that she believes monitor her every word, and rages at an imaginary enemy. Her neighbours, always hostile, begin to persecute her openly for her foreignness and eccentricity. This is the story of Josiane's struggle to come to terms with the truth: that the mother who has so cherished and protected her is losing her grasp on the world.

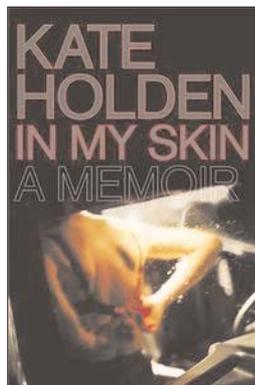


In My Skin

Kate HOLDEN

285pp Tp \$32.00

Kate is used to being summed up at a glance: arts graduate, history buff, middle-class daughter, dreamer, innocent. But she is a young woman who understands better than most the secrets that people keep hidden. This astonishing debut follows her journey from the safe and leafy suburbs of Melbourne to the all-consuming attractions of heroin and the sex industry. Holden's journey leads her to a world of sex for money, from the seedy netherworld of back lanes and backseats to the security, both real and imagined, provided by brothels. This is a searingly honest and wonderfully written account of a life on the streets, on drugs and on the skids.

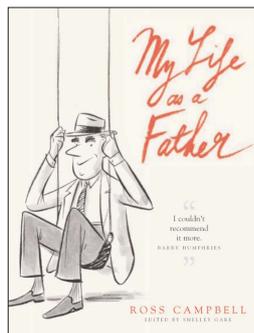


My Life as a Father

Ross CAMPBELL

206pp Hb \$29.95

Humourist and columnist Ross Campbell is affectionately remembered for the thousands of columns he wrote over three decades in *The Women's Weekly* and *The Sunday Telegraph*. The Campbell children - with the pseudonyms Theodora, Lancelot, Little Nell and Baby Pip - appear regularly in his columns. The best of these columns appear in this collection, edited by Shelley Gare, with a foreword by Barry Humphries. Campbell's delightful illustrations complement his gentle timeless humour.



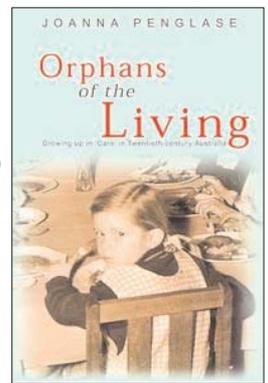
Orphans of the Living

Growing up in 'Care' in Twentieth-Century Australia

Joanna PENGLASE

240pp Pb \$29.95

This chapter in our social history has fallen into a black hole and yet it affected half a million children, along with their families, and it goes on affecting our children and grandchildren. Unlike today, when the children who go into care are usually from dysfunctional families, children of my generation were from a wide range of family circumstances. In my case, my mother was deserted by her husband, (my father), with three little children under three. In an era of no community or government support, she did what tens of thousands of parents did; she put us in a Home. As a woman alone, she never managed to get together the money or other resources to get us out of the Home, and there we grew up. I went in at 8 months and came out at 21, totally unequipped to lead an adult life. We now understand what horrors were wrought on Aboriginal children removed from their parents by 'welfare' measures, but we don't seem to realise that similar things happened to white Australian children. It is very difficult to get governments and churches to acknowledge what an appalling system it was: not merely abusive, though it was, but neglectful through sheer indifference. The 2004 Senate Report, *Forgotten Australians*, recognised this comprehensively, but there has been little response to it from any quarter.



Joanna Penglase

Fortune's Daughters

The Extravagant Lives of the Jerome Sisters

Jennie Churchill, Clara Frewen and Leonie Leslie

Elisabeth KEHOE

452pp Pb \$26.95

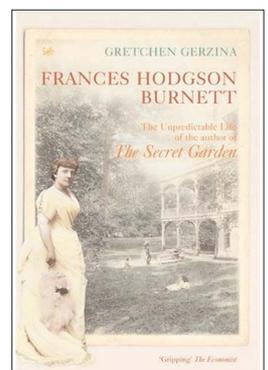
The story of the three Jerome sisters is one of love, glamour and money in equal measure. Their father, Leonard, was a profligate New York stockbroker whose beautiful wife, Clara Hall, was as extravagant as her husband. Their three daughters - Jennie, Clara and Leonie - were provided with every advantage, and lived a charmed existence. A fortuitous encounter in London with the Prince of Wales, who later became Edward VII, launched the girls into English society. Acclaimed wherever they went, they became known, simply, as "the Good, the Witty and the Beautiful". Jennie (the beautiful) married Randolph Churchill, younger son of the Duke of Marlborough, and was Winston's mother. Clara (the good) was romanced by the dashing Moreton Frewen, who had already squandered what capital he had on gambling, sports and women, while Leonie (the witty) married into the Leslies, a distinguished Irish family who were disappointed by their son's choice of bride. Elisabeth Kehoe's wonderful book covers more than 100 years of family history, spanning 19th century New York, the fall of the second republic in France, and also Britain during both world wars. Magnificent!

Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Unpredictable Life of the Author of *The Secret Garden*

Gretchen GERZINA 359pp Tp \$45.00

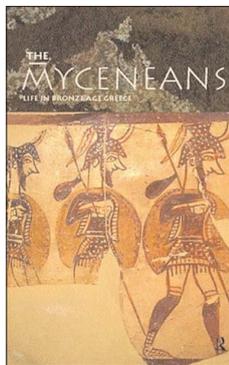
The remarkable woman who wrote those perennial childhood classics, *The Secret Garden* and *A Little Princess*, lived an unexpected and varied life. From modest beginnings in mid-Victorian Manchester to adulthood in America, where she arrived in post-Civil War Tennessee at the age of 15, with her widowed mother, two sisters and two brothers, Burnett was a woman of contrasts and paradoxes. She made - and spent - a fortune; was generous and profligate, yet anxious about money and obsessively hardworking; flighty, yet hard-headed; depressive; amusing and clever (though not well educated). She published 52 books and wrote and produced 13 plays; she made an early marriage to a Southern doctor and had notorious flirtations and a scandalous affair before a disastrous second marriage to an English doctor turned actor.



The Mycenaeans

Rodney CASTLEDEN 282pp Tp \$53.00

Following on from Castleden's bestselling study **Minoans** (Pb \$34.95), this major new contribution to our understanding of the crucial Mycenaean period clearly and effectively brings together research and knowledge we have accumulated since the discovery of the remains of the civilisation of Mycenae in the 1870s. In lively prose, informed by the latest research and using full bibliography and over 100 illustrations, this vivid study delivers the fundamentals of Mycenaean culture, hierarchy, economy and religion. Castleden introduces controversial views of the Mycenaean palaces as temples, and studies their impressive sea empire and their crucial interaction with the outside Bronze Age world before discussing the causes of the end of their civilisation.

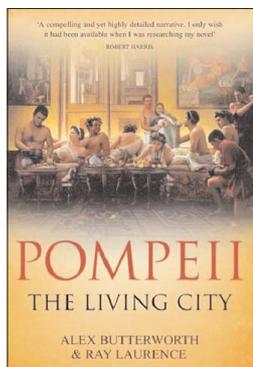


Pompeii

The Living City

Alex BUTTERWORTH & Ray LAURENCE 368pp Hb \$49.95

This startling new book concentrates on the 20 years between 59 and 79AD, beginning with the earthquake which all but destroyed Pompeii and ending with the volcanic eruption which has become part of our collective popular imagination. The authors have synthesised the latest research to bring this period of flux and instability back to life. By concentrating on key members from each strata of Pompeian society, we are plunged into the everyday life of a city rebuilding itself, in the knowledge that it will all be for nothing when Vesuvius erupts. So we follow Suedius Clemens, who has been sent by Vespasian to settle disputes over land; Decimus Satrius Lucretius Valens, who is set to join Pompeii's elite magistrates following the death of his protector; the Vettii brothers, who were fabulously rich and ostentatious dealers in wine and perfume; Pherusa, the runaway slave and lusty young Rustus who is contemplating parricide... This exhilarating narrative approach to Pompeii captures the subjective experience of life in the city and uses Pompeii as an introduction to the cultural landscape of the Roman Empire as a whole.

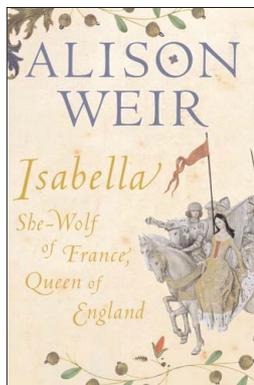


Isabella

She-Wolf of France, Queen of England

Alison WEIR 512pp Hb \$65.00

In Newgate Street, London, stand the meagre ruins of Christ Church. On the same site once stood a royal mausoleum set to rival Westminster Abbey in the 14th century. Among the many crowned heads buried there was Isabella of France, Edward II's queen. Today, popular legends speak of how her angry ghost can be glimpsed among the ruins, clutching the heart of her murdered husband. Even the reputable publications of English Heritage maintain that the Queen's maniacal laughter can be heard on stormy nights at Castle Rising in Norfolk. How did Isabella acquire such a reputation? She is known to have lived adulterously with Roger Mortimer for at least four years, but the evidence surrounding accusations of murder and regicide is unsubstantiated. Weir revisits the facts of her life in a scholarly context in which women's personal lives do not dictate wholly the way we interpret their roles in the public world. *due October*

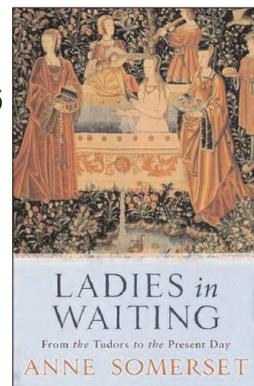


Ladies in Waiting

From the Tudors to the Present Day

Anne SOMERSET 342pp Pb \$24.95

Far from just being servants or decorative accessories in court, ladies-in-waiting competed for real positions of power. Many achieved great success and great notoriety. Lucy, Countess of Carlisle, for instance, succeeded in acquiring the confidence of Charles I's French wife, Henrietta Maria, only to betray the Queen to her enemies in Parliament. Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, at one time Queen Anne's most intimate friend, destroyed herself by her relentless attempts to dominate the Queen. Other ladies-in-waiting became royal mistresses, such as the rapacious Lady Castlemaine, who amassed a fortune and flaunted her hold over Charles II; or the downtrodden Countess of Suffolk, mistress of George II, who was constantly humiliated by both her lover and his wife. Drawing on a wide variety of primary sources, this is the first full-scale study of its kind. Combining anecdote with searching analysis, it is social history at its most colourful and entertaining.



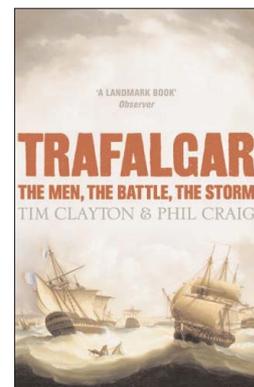
Trafalgar

The Men, the Battle, the Storm

Tim CLAYTON & Phil CRAIG

464pp Pb \$27.00

200 years ago, Napoleon Bonaparte dominated Europe and threatened Britain with invasion. Against him stood the Royal Navy and the already legendary Admiral Horatio Nelson. On 21 October 1805, a massive naval battle off the coast of Spain decided mastery of the seas. Then, over the following days and nights, the battleships and their exhausted crews endured a gale of awesome fury. As Captain Charles Tyler wrote to his wife Margaret, "the wind blew a perfect storm". The authors tell this story not only through the diaries, letters and memoirs of the men who wrestled with the enemy and the elements, but also through the eyes of their wives and children.



A Perfect Red

Empire, Espionage and the Quest for the Colour of Desire

Amy Butler GREENFIELD

338pp Hb \$52.95

A dramatic history of cochineal, the small Mexican beetle whose precious red dye provoked global intrigue and piracy from medieval times to the present day, this book recounts the colourful history of cochineal, a legendary red dye that was once one of the world's most precious commodities. Treasured by the ancient Mexicans, cochineal was sold in the great Aztec marketplaces, where it attracted the attention of the Spanish conquistadors in 1519. Shipped to Europe, the dye created a sensation, producing the brightest, strongest red the world had ever seen. Soon Spain's cochineal monopoly was worth a fortune. Desperate to find their own sources of the elusive dye, the English, French, Dutch and other Europeans tried to crack the enigma of cochineal. Did it come from a worm, a berry, a seed? Could it be stolen from Mexico and transplanted to their own colonies? Pirates, explorers, alchemists, scientists and spies - all joined the chase for cochineal, a chase that lasted for more than three centuries.

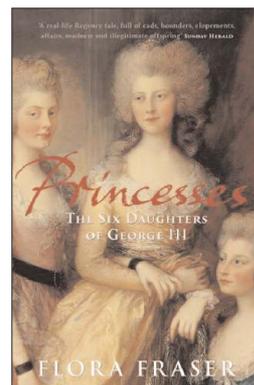
Princesses

The Six Daughters of George III

Flora FRASER

476pp Pb \$29.95

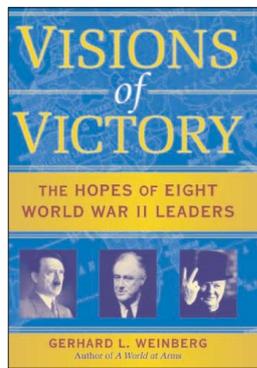
King George III believed that his six daughters were perfectly content with a life of charitable works and lady-like accomplishments at Windsor. But secretly, as this absorbing narrative of royal repression and sexual licence shows, the sisters enjoyed startling freedom. Scandal and intrigue often erupted within the castle walls as the sisters forged lives torn between love for an ailing father and longing for independence. With unparalleled access to Royal and private family papers, Fraser turns the historical searchlight on George III and his daughters.



Visions of Victory

The Hopes of Eight World War II Leaders
Gerhard WEINBERG 316pp Hb \$49.95

Astonishing in its synthesis and scope, Weinberg's comparison of the individual portraits of the war-time leaders is a highly original and compelling study of history that might have been. What emerges is a startling picture of post-war worlds: besides the extermination of the Jews, Hitler intended Germans to inhabit all of Eastern Europe. Both Mussolini and Hitler intended to have extensive colonies in Africa. Churchill hoped to see the re-emergence of the British and French empires. De Gaulle wanted to annex the northwest corner of Italy. Stalin wanted (and achieved) control of Eastern Europe. Roosevelt's vision of the future was the closest to being fulfilled, including the establishment of the United Nations.



A World at Arms

A Global History of World War II

Gerhard WEINBERG 1,208pp Pb \$59.95

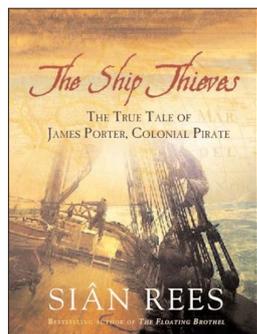
Widely hailed as a masterpiece, this is the first history of WWII to provide a truly global account of the war that encompassed six continents. Starting with the changes that restructured Europe and her colonies following the First World War, Weinberg sheds new light on every aspect of World War II. Actions of the Axis, the Allies and the Neutrals are covered in every theatre of the war. More importantly, the global nature of the war is examined, with new insights into how events in one corner of the world helped affect events in other distant parts. In a new edition, with a new preface, this remains a classic of global history.

The Ship Thieves

The True Tales of James Porter, Colonial Pirate

Sian REES 336pp Tp \$35.00

James Porter, Cockney finger-smith, sailor, adventurer, convict and chancer, led a colourful life until he was transported to the wild outpost of Van Diemen's Land in 1823. Never one for rules, he consequently suffered the miserable conditions of the chain gang until, following one of his many audacious escapes, the cunningly resourceful Porter and nine other convicts hijacked a ship and crossed the South Pacific to Chile. There they enjoyed a year's blissful refuge until betrayal led to discovery and recapture. Tried for piracy and condemned to death in Tasmania, his sentence was commuted to exile by the British government and Porter was sent to rot on Norfolk Island, where his story was buried until now. In the vein of her bestselling **The Floating Brothel** (Pb \$24.95), this story is told in Rees's vividly evocative, superbly emotive prose which sets the reader adrift in a salty tale of adventure on the high seas, and which is all the more enthralling for its flawless research and historical accuracy.

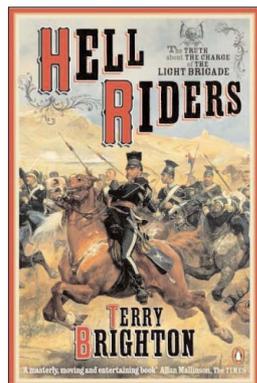


Hell Riders

The Truth About the Charge of the Light Brigade

Terry BRIGHTON 400pp Pb \$26.95

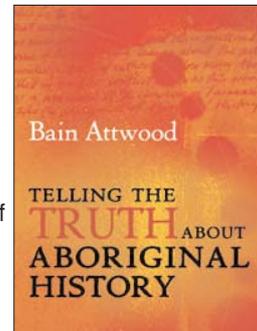
On 25 October 1854, during the Crimean War, the Light Brigade of the British Cavalry Division made the most magnificent and brutal charge in military history. Almost 700 men armed with sabre and lance charged straight at the muzzles of Russian cannons. This vivid and extraordinarily detailed account of the charge and the bloody melee that followed, by an author with unique access to regimental archives, is told largely in the words of the survivors themselves. Brighton takes the reader closer than ever before to the experience of charging down the Valley of Death.



Telling the Truth About Aboriginal History

Bain ATTWOOD 264pp Tp \$35.00

The 'history wars' have been characterised by nastiness and a lack of rational debate - rejections rather than rebuttals. This lucid and careful book should redress this situation, or at least clarify the issues involved. Questions of nation and national identity are considered, how the discipline of Aboriginal History has arisen in academia and how it has been represented outside the universities. A fair amount of space is given to the Windschuttle controversy, with the conclusion that he has offered nothing relevant and nothing that has not existed in the body of scholarship preceding his work, and that his methods are faulty and flawed - all this is carefully and politely delineated. The final section deals with epistemological and ethical issues and the acknowledgement of history's limits, which simply cannot represent all pasts by traditional methods and sources. This is a thoughtful book, one which demands your contemplation of the issues raised. It is not a book to devour heedlessly, but it is very clearly written and is an indication that there still exists in Australia intellectual debate that is not name-calling and alarmist in nature. What a shame that the people who could most benefit from this lesson probably won't read this book, as it deserves to be read.



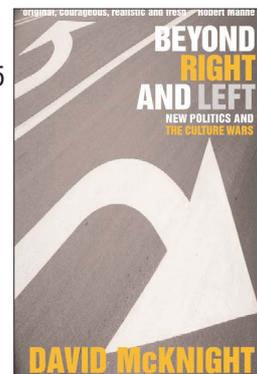
Lindy

Beyond Right and Left

New Politics and the Culture Wars

David McKNIGHT 298pp Pb \$24.95

What does 'left' and 'right' mean in these brave new days? Not a great deal, it seems, according to this book, which argues convincingly that these concepts are increasingly inadequate. The 'left' has problems with its policies and philosophies and needs to develop a new vision; the 'right' is not always conservative, but has embraced and acted on some deeply radical ideas. Written by an academic, this book is for the general reader interested in politics and ideas. As well as a good general overview and analysis of past and current politics, it also offers thoughts on a new humanism, which could be used as the basis for rethinking traditional ideas. An interesting and thoughtful book.



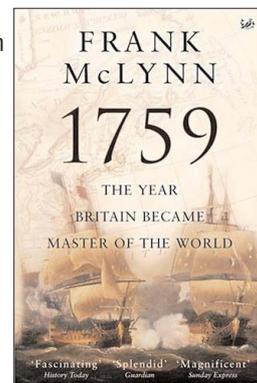
Lindy

1759

The Year Britain Became Master of the World

Frank McLYNN 432pp Tp \$30.00

Although 1759 is not a date as well known in British history as 1215, 1588 or 1688, there is a strong case to be made that it is the most significant year since 1066. In 1759 - the fourth year of the Seven Years War - the British defeated the French in arduous campaigns in India and the West Indies, in Germany and Canada, and also achieved absolute mastery of the seas. As Thackeray famously remarked in **Barry Lyndon**, it would take a theologian, rather than an historian, to unravel the true causes of the Seven Years War in Europe, but the spine of the wider conflict was the struggle for global hegemony between Britain and France. Drawing on a mass of primary materials, from texts in the Vatican archives to oral histories of the North American Indians, McLynn shows how the conflict between those two countries triggered the first 'world war', raging from Europe to Africa; the Caribbean to the Pacific; the plains of the Ganges to the Great Lakes of North America. It also brought about the War of Independence, the acquisition by Britain of the Falkland Islands and, ultimately, the French Revolution.



The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Justinian (626pp Pb \$59.95) edited by Michael Maas introduces the Age of Justinian, which was both the last Roman century and the first flowering of Byzantine culture. The 20 contributors explore the most important aspects of the age, including warfare, urbanism, economy, the codification of Roman law and the religious controversies of the day and more.

New in paperback is Eric Osborn's **Irenaeus of Lyons** (307pp \$59.95), which presents a major study of Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, who attacked Gnostic theosophy with positive ideas, as well as negative critiques. Dominated by a Socratic love of truth and a classical love of beauty, he was a founder of Western humanism.

In **Molecular Models of Life** (396pp Hb \$67.00), Sahorta Sarkar broadens the scope of current discussions of the philosophy of biology, viewing molecular biology as a unifying perspective on life that complements that of evolutionary biology. His focus is on molecular biology, but the overriding question behind these essays is what molecular biology contributes to all traditional areas of biological research.

The Invention of the Park (216pp Pb \$43.95) by Karen Jones and John Wills explores our fascination with making parks. In a broad-ranging environmental and social history, the authors search for a common set of ideas that inform park design and ponder the intersection of the green pleasure ground with notions of democracy and freedom, welfare and consumption, conservation and nature.

What if the Nazis had triumphed in World War II? What if Hitler had escaped Berlin for the Latin American jungles in 1945? In **The World Hitler Never Made** (524pp Hb \$59.95), Gavriel Rosenfeld explores why counterfactual questions about Nazism have proliferated within Western popular culture.

Russia in the 21st Century (244pp Pb \$49.95) by Steven Rosefielde demonstrates that Russia intends to re-emerge as a full-fledged superpower before 2010, challenging America and China and potentially threatening a new arms race. The book also explains why the Soviet Union imploded, why Western experts missed the signs, and how Russia has metamorphosed into an authoritarian regime instead of pursuing a transition to full democracy.

A Day in a Medieval City (206pp Hb \$73.00) by Chiara Frugoni provides a captivating dawn-to-dark account of medieval life. A visual trek through the 13th and 14th centuries, this book offers a vast array of images and vignettes that depict the everyday hardships and commonplace pleasures of people living in the Middle Ages.

Laurel Leff's **Buried by the Times** (426pp Hb \$59.95) is an in-depth look at how *The New York Times* failed in its coverage of the fate of European Jews from 1939 to 1945. It examines the many decisions that were made up and down the chain of command that ultimately resulted in the minimising and misunderstanding of modern history's worst genocide.

The Essential Mary Midgley (413pp Pb \$49.00) collects for the first time the very best of this famous philosopher's work. It provides a very accessible insight into questions she has returned to again and again in her renowned sharp prose, from the roots of human nature, reason and imagination to the myths of science.

In **The Leper King and his Heirs** (288pp Pb \$89.95), Bernard Hamilton challenges the traditional view that the reign of King Baldwin IV of Jerusalem (1174-85) was a period of decline due to the king's illness and the bad decisions made by those who held power. He argues that peace with Saladin was not a viable option for the Franks, that Baldwin was an excellent leader and the society over which he presided was vigorous and self-confident.

Dave

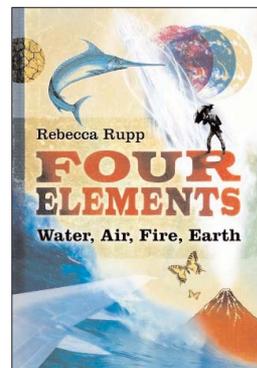
Four Elements

Water, Air, Fire, Earth

Rebecca RUPP

373pp Hb \$45.00

First, an introductory section presents Greek science and modern atomic theory, Aristotle and the periodic table. The substantial sections devoted to each element range widely from creation myths and volcanoes to plate tectonics and the tides. And at the core of each is a wonderfully informative discussion of every aspect. In *Water*, Rupp talks of drinking water, thermal springs, bathing and swimming (by humans, animals and fish), snow, ice and refrigeration, rain and the oceans. The four 'elements', in their symbolic aspect, are the romance at the heart of science. From atomic theory to oxygen bars, from super volcanoes to the anatomy of the candle, this is a multifaceted journey of discovery through the elements, real and symbolic, that shape our lives.



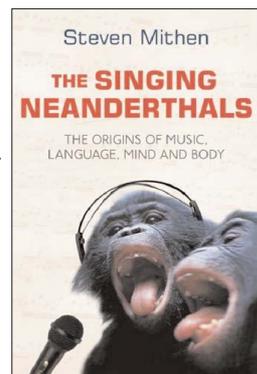
The Singing Neanderthals

The Origins of Music, Language, Mind and Body

Steven MITHEN

272pp Hb \$49.95

Along with the concepts of consciousness and intelligence, our capacity for language sits right at the core of what makes us human. But while the evolutionary origins of language have provoked speculation and impassioned debate, those of that other aural and vocal communication system, music, have been neglected if not ignored. Like language, it is a universal feature of human culture, one that is a permanent feature of our daily lives and one that is capable of both expressing and inducing intense emotion. Mithen redresses the balance, drawing on a huge range of sources, from neurological case studies, through child psychology and the communication systems of non-human primates to the latest paleo-archaeological evidence. The result is a fascinating and provocative work, and a succinct riposte to those, like Steven Pinker, who have dismissed music as a functionless and unimportant evolutionary by-product.

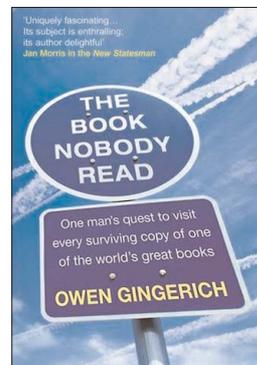


The Book Nobody Read

Owen GINGERICH

320pp Pb \$24.95

To test the claim by Arthur Koestler that Copernicus' **On the Revolutions of Heavenly Spheres** (Pb \$35.00) was "the book nobody read", Gingerich undertook a census of all the surviving copies of the first and second editions to see who owned it and (by examining the annotations in them) who read it. This book tells the story of that 30-year quest and introduces us to the fascinating world of rare books - their collectors and the scholars who study them, as well as those who steal them. We also learn about book publishing in the 16th century, the networks of scientists in the 16th and 17th centuries and of course the history of one of the most important books ever written, which turns out to have actually been widely read - as this excellent book deserves to be.



Dave

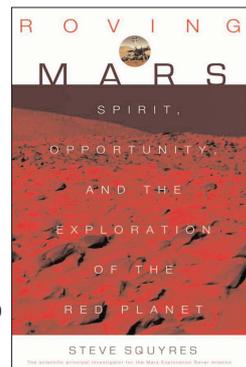
Roving Mars

Spirit, Opportunity and the Exploration of the Red Planet

Steve SQUYRES

422pp Hb \$49.95

Steve Squyres is the Principal Investigator behind the Mars Exploration Rover mission and this is his personal account of the mission and what it took to make it happen. He tells us of the unsuccessful proposals he had put forward in the years before the mission was approved, and his fight to keep intact the plan of landing two rovers, when some people wanted it cut back. The technical challenges alone were huge, but when you consider the political ones as well, it makes you wonder how they finally not only made it to Mars, but managed to make the mission one of the most successful ever. It's a great story and it's well told. Highly recommended.

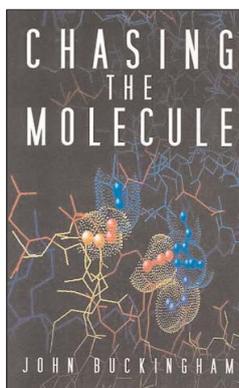


Dave

Chasing the Molecule

John BUCKINGHAM 262pp Pb \$24.95

In the 50s, a tremendous conceptual breakthrough was about to take place in science, revolutionising the way we think about the molecules of life. The story ranged across laboratories throughout Europe in which the protagonists built molecular models that promised to unlock the natural world's secrets. When the breakthrough finally occurred, some of the participants became widely honoured, while others were unjustly neglected and died in obscurity. This all happened in the 1850s, not the 1950s. By the mid-19th century, chemists had established that many natural products were made of just three elements - carbon, oxygen and hydrogen. How could this be true? How could such extraordinarily complicated substances, even man himself, be made of nothing but charcoal and air? The molecules were the fundamental substances of organic chemistry, the building blocks not only of the DNA unravelled a century later, but of the mass of natural products and synthetic substances that were to dominate the modern world.



A Different Universe

Reinventing Physics from the Bottom Down

Robert LAUGHLIN 254pp Hb \$44.00

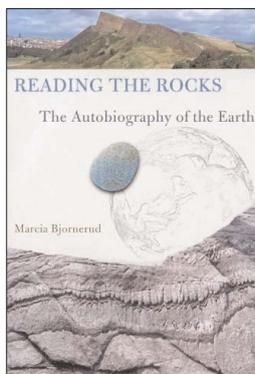
Not since Richard Feynman has a *Nobel Prize*-winning physicist written with as much panache as Laughlin does in this revelatory and essential book. He proposes nothing less than a new way of understanding fundamental laws of science. In this age of superstring theories and Big-Bang cosmology, we're used to thinking of the unknown as being impossibly distant from our everyday lives. But we have not reached the end of science, Laughlin argues - only the end of reductionist thinking. If we consider the world of emergent properties instead, suddenly the deepest mysteries are as close as the nearest ice cube or grain of salt. And he goes farther: the most fundamental laws of physics - such as Newton's laws of motion and quantum mechanics - are in fact emergent. They are properties of large assemblages of matter, and when their exactness is examined too closely, it vanishes into nothing. This book takes us into a universe where the vacuum of space has to be considered a kind of solid matter, where sound has quantised particles just like those of light, where there are many more than three phases of matter and where metal resembles a liquid, while super-fluid helium is more like a solid. It is a universe teeming with natural phenomena still to be discovered. This is a truly mind-altering book that shows readers a surprising, exquisitely beautiful and mysterious new world.

Reading the Rocks

The Autobiography of the Earth

Marcia BJORNERUD 237pp Hb \$49.95

To many of us, the Earth's crust is a relic of ancient, unknowable history. But to a geologist, stones are richly illustrated narratives, telling gothic tales of cataclysm and reincarnation. For more than four billion years, in sand, granite and garnet schists, the planet has kept a rich and idiosyncratic journal of its past. Fulbright Scholar Bjornerud takes the reader on an eye-opening tour of Deep Time, explaining in elegant prose what we see and feel beneath our feet. Both scientist and storyteller, she uses anecdotes and metaphors to remind us that our home is a living thing with lessons to teach. She shows us how our planet has long maintained a delicate balance, and how the global give-and-take has sustained life on Earth through numerous upheavals. But with the rapidly escalating effects of human beings on their home planet, that cosmic balance is being threatened - and the consequences may be catastrophic. Containing a glossary and detailed timescale, as well as vivid description and historic accounts, this is literally a history of the world, for all friends of the Earth.



Einstein: A Hundred Years of Relativity

(256pp Hb \$49.95) edited by Andrew Robinson is a beautifully illustrated collection of essays on the life and work of Einstein. The contributors include Stephen Hawking, the late Joseph Rotblat and Philip Glass.

George Johnson's **Miss Leavitt's Stars** (162pp Hb \$49.95) 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 she was the person who discovered the correlation between the variability and the absolute luminosity of Cepheid variables.

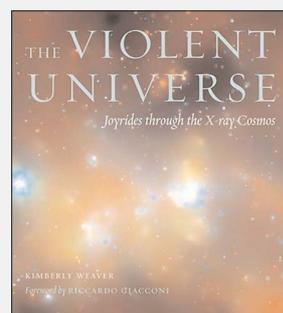
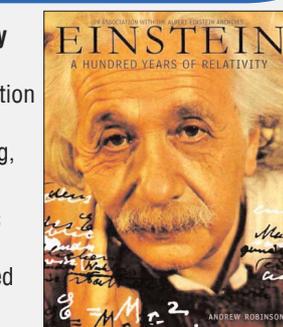
To say that Wernher von Braun had an interesting life is a bit of an understatement. He went from launching V2 rockets for Hitler to launching Saturn Vs for NASA, as well as becoming a leading evangelist for space exploration. The story of his amazing life is told in Bob Ward's **Dr Space** (282pp Hb \$59.95).

In **The Metaphysics of Apes** (227pp Pb \$49.95), Raymond Corbey traces the interpretation of the ambiguously human-like great apes and ape-like ancestors of present-day humans. He shows how, from the days of Linnaeus to recent research, the sacred and taboo-ridden animal-human boundary was time and again redrawn to cope with these challenges.

The latest in the successful *Very Short Introduction* series is **Dinosaurs** (176pp Pb \$22.95) by David Norman. He reveals how scientists combine anatomy, genetics, forensics and even engineering design to build a picture of what dinosaurs looked like, what they ate and how they moved and interacted with each other.

The Code-Breaking Challenge (192pp Tp \$19.95) contains more than 100 codes to crack and ciphers to solve. Puzzles of all difficulty levels are featured and clues and solutions are included.

In **The Violent Universe: Joyrides through the X-ray Cosmos** (195pp Hb \$64.00), Kimberly Weaver takes the reader on a tour of the universe as revealed by X-ray telescopes. By comparing optical and X-ray images of the same objects, the author shows just how much more can be learnt about everything from black holes to colliding galaxies.



Joseph Polchinski's **String Theory** is now available in paperback at \$150.00 for the two-volume set or \$99.00 per volume. It is the definitive textbook for anyone studying string theory at the graduate level.

Also new in paperback is Steven Weinberg's **Quantum Theory of Fields** at \$250.00 for the three-volume set or \$89.95 per volume. Written by a *Nobel* laureate, this is a self-contained and comprehensive introduction to quantum field theory.

Art Forms from the Ocean (96pp Pb \$39.95) is a reprint of Ernst Haeckel's 1862 radiolarian atlas. The introductory essay covers Haeckel's life and scientific achievements, and the rest of the book is devoted to Haeckel's stunning illustrations of these amazingly diverse creatures.

In **A Guide to the End of the World** (Pb \$24.95), Bill McGuire presented a frightening vision of the global hazards that face us. In **Surviving Armageddon** (238pp Hb \$49.95), he guides us through the latest approaches being researched to prevent global catastrophes, or at least minimise their effect. He argues that we can make a genuine bid to survive what nature throws at us - providing we take the risks seriously.

Coral Reefs (289pp Pb \$39.95) by Walter and Jean Deas provides an introduction to coral reef biology and ecology, as well as a full-colour identification guide to the various types of coral. *Dave*

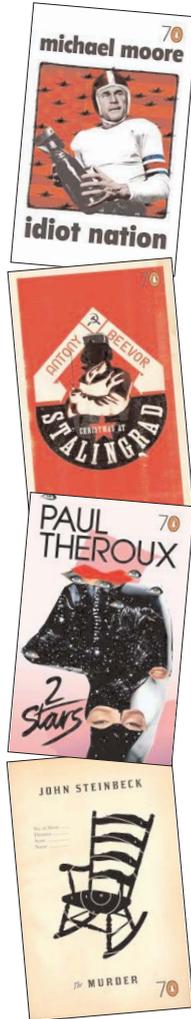
To celebrate Penguin's 70th birthday, we are giving away a boxed set of all 70 Pocket Penguins. Simply purchase any three titles this month to enter the draw.

At 64 pages each, **Pocket Penguins** (\$3.95) are the ideal way to spend an idle moment with great authors, ranging from Homer to Hornby. All are superbly designed and highly collectable, with each cover created as part of a project undertaken by 70 leading artists and designers. The range and quality of the series epitomise Penguin founder Allen Lane's vision of "good books for all". View a full animated list at: www.penguin.co.uk/static/cs/uk/0/minisites/happybirthdaypenguin/content.html



(Winner to be contacted 1 November)

- 1 **Lady Chatterley's Trial** by D H Lawrence
- 2 **Cogs in the Great Machine** by Eric Schlosser
- 3 **Otherwise Pandemonium** by Nick Hornby
- 4 **Summer in Algiers** by Albert Camus
- 5 **Innocent House** by P D James
- 6 **The View from Mount Improbable** by Richard Dawkins
- 7 **How to Shop** by India Knight
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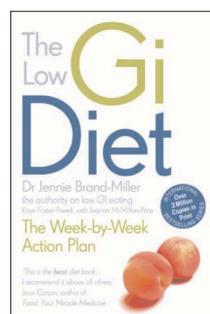
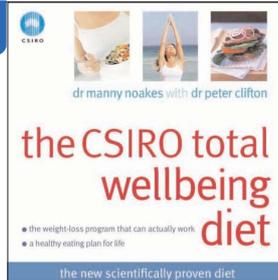


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Food for Thought

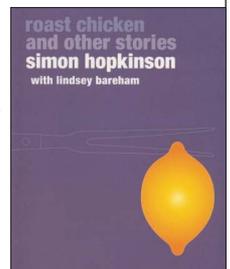
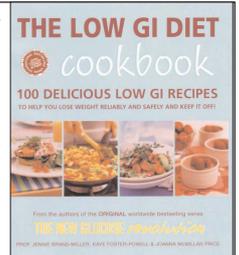
The book that pushed **Harry Potter** off our bestseller list is **The CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet** by Manny Noakes & Peter Clifton (200pp Tp \$29.95). Developed by Australia's CSIRO, this is not just another diet, it's a long-term healthy eating plan that can make you feel great. Easy to use, scientifically tested and nutritionally balanced, this is taking the country by storm. With over 100 recipes and 12 weeks of menu plans to get you started, this book explains how to start, what to cook and how to keep the weight off forever. If you can stick to two glasses of wine (optional!) per week, and no carbs at night, this book could change your life.

I prefer **The Low GI Diet** by Dr Jennie Brand-Miller (Book & DVD \$39.95). Brand-Miller, a nutritionist at the University of Sydney, discovered the Glycemic Index and has tested and catalogued the GI of thousands of foods. Hers was the first diet and nutrition program based on scientific tests. When reviewing **The New Glucose Revolution** (Tp \$34.95), I predicted that counting GI would soon become as commonplace as counting calories, and so it has. Although the CSIRO Diet claims scientifically proven results, the diet consists primarily of protein and



vegetables, while Brand-Miller maintains that low GI carbohydrates in whole foods should be the staples of life. That means that pasta, sauce and salad is an ideal evening meal, as is stir fry and rice (basmati, not jasmine). I'll make another prediction that this eating plan will bear out in the long run as the best and most scientifically proven diet for the human species. Also new is **The Low GI Diet Cookbook** (176pp Tp \$35.00).

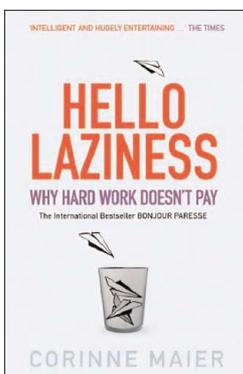
It was also a cookbook that pushed Harry off the bestseller charts in the UK. Recently voted "the most useful recipe book ever written" by a panel of gastronomes in *Waitrose Food Illustrated* is **Roast Chicken and Other Stories** by Simon Hopkinson (240pp Tp \$32.95). Unchanged since its original publication in 1995, the present edition is handsome, user-friendly and durable, with good paper and secure stitching. The contents are a stroll through 40 of Hopkinson's favourite ingredients, from anchovy and asparagus to lamb and leeks to tripe and veal, with a discursive introduction to each followed by a number of recipes. The recipes are robust, flavoursome and - if this is the right word - homely. You're not likely to lose weight eating Le Le Grand Aioli, Brandade de Morue, Fruit Fool or Breast of Lamb Ste-Menehould, but you're sure to enjoy yourself. *Ann*



Hello Laziness

Why Hard Work Doesn't Pay

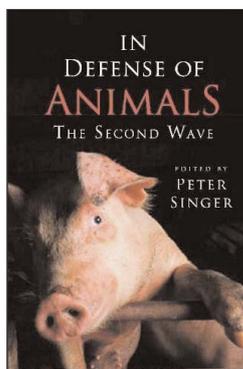
Corinne MAIER 130pp Pb \$24.95
Picture the scene: the boardroom at French electricity giant EdF. The subject: 'Motivation'. One of the senior economists declared: She came to work because she was paid to! The stunned silence lasted a full 15 seconds. The woman was Corinne Maier and she had dared to voice the unspeakable - we go to work not because we love it, not because we love organising childcare and cramming on the Tube for 45 minutes, but because we have to. This sets the tone for Maier's revolutionary book on getting away with doing as little as possible at work. Full of practical tips, as well as insights into the workings of the modern company, this book is as inspirational as it is enlightening. Covering subjects ranging from getting promoted, to managing in meetings and dealing with colleagues, it is a witty antidote to the rash of American motivational books on the market. It is a call to the office workers of the world to rise up and throw their laptops and mission statements in the air.



In Defense of Animals

The Second Wave

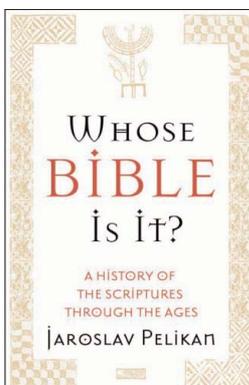
Peter SINGER (editor) 248pp Tp \$32.95
Edited by Peter Singer, who made "speciesism" an international issue in 1975 when he published **Animal Liberation** (Tp \$40.00), this new book presents the state of the animal movement that his classic work helped inspire. Long hailed as a brilliant and controversial philosopher, Singer has assembled incisive new articles by philosophers and by activists. This is sure to inform and inspire all who want to understand, or contribute to, the unfolding moral revolution in the way we treat animals.



Whose Bible Is It?

A History of the Scriptures Through the Ages

Jaroslav PELIKAN 288pp Hb \$49.95
No book has been the subject of more comment and controversy, or has had more influence on our culture and language, than the Bible. But how did it become the book we know it to be? In this superbly written history, Pelikan charts its evolution from oral tales via Hebrew texts, Greek and Latin translations, to its many different forms today, offering a new insight into the history of the last 2,000 years. This is an enduring work of scholarship and a fascinating read.



Plunging Point

Lance COLLINS & Warren REED 432pp Tp \$32.95

In the age of the War on Terror, high-quality, reliable intelligence is more crucial to our national security than ever. Yet from September 11, 2001 in New York to Bali, Madrid, London and the unfolding situation in Iraq, we hear endless claims and counter-claims about what went wrong and why. As former intelligence officers with the military and ASIS, the authors are ideally placed to assess these claims. From the policy-makers to the agents on the ground, the authors examine the chain of command and the role of vested interests. They provide an overview for the general reader of how intelligence services work in the post-September 11 world. Non-partisan and clearly written, this book outlines the historical context, the present problems and future solutions for intelligence services and their societies.



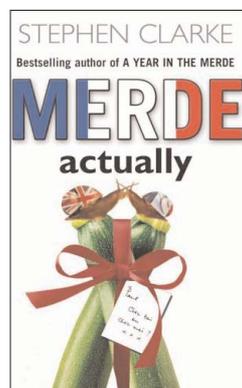
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Merde Actually

Stephen CLARKE 410pp Pb \$23.95

A year after arriving in France, Englishman Paul West is still struggling with some fundamental questions. What is the best way to scare a gendarme? Why do French job applicants put sexually transmitted diseases on their CVs? Why are there no public health warnings on French nudist beaches? And how do you cope with a plague of courgettes? Paul also mutates (temporarily) into a Parisian waiter; samples the pleasures of typically French hotel-room afternoons; and, on a return visit to the UK, sees the full horror of a British office party through Parisian eyes. Meanwhile, he continues his search for the perfect French mademoiselle. But will Paul find 'l'amour eternal', or will it all end in merde?



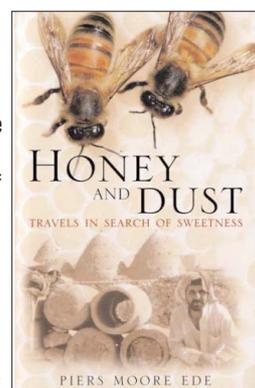
Honey and Dust

Travels in Search of Sweetness

Piers MOORE EDE

292pp Hb \$39.95

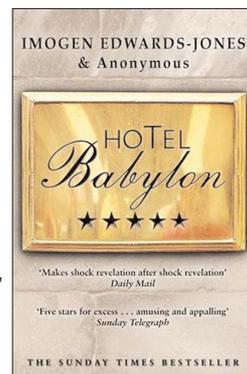
After being seriously injured in a hit and run, Piers went to work and recuperate on an organic farm in Italy. There he met a beekeeper, Gunter, who showed him, for the first time, the wonders and magic of the beehive. Battling depression and afraid to face the future, he finds a renewed sense of purpose through his work with the bees. Up close amongst the highly organised life of a hive, he realises that somehow honey might be the salve that can help him. Still only in his mid-20s, Piers decides upon a quest to seek the most wondrous honeys in the world. From the terracotta bee jars of the Lebanon to the clay cylinders of Syria, slowly his personal tribulations dwindle into perspective against the backdrop of the fast-shrinking traditions of the honey-farmers. Hunting wild honey from cliffs with Gurung tribesman in Nepal, and in vast jungle trees with Veddah tribesmen in Sri Lanka, he draws close to the very origins of life. But honey itself - the wonderful invigorating golden manna that Virgil believed was of divine origin - is the real luminary of this book.



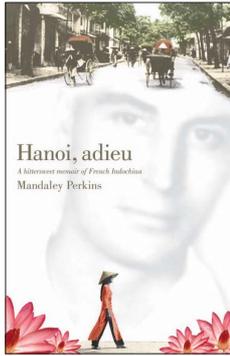
Hotel Babylon

Imogen EDWARDS-JONES & ANONYMOUS 352pp Pb \$24.95

The hotel business is a licence to print money - not only for the managers, owners and shareholders, but for the people who work there. From chambermaids' tips, to doormen making £2,000 a week, to the concierge taking backhanders - everyone in the hotel trade is on the make. The hotel business is a licence for the guests to steal - anything from fridges, furniture, plasma TVs, carpets, loo seats, bathrobes, ashtrays, teaspoons - even re-filling the vodka bottle in the mini-bar with water. The hotel business is also a licence for celebrity to reign supreme - from Michael Jackson's Evian bath to Madonna's odd curtain fetish, Kate Moss and Johnny Depp's parties, Princess Diana's taste for oysters, Pamela Anderson's sexual gymnastics, the Queen Mother's chips and Prince Phillip's Silver Bullet cocktail. This is a trawl through the highs and lows, the extremes, the tragedies, the miseries, the decadence and the debauchery of the ultimate service industry - where money not only talks, but gets you the best room, the best service, and also entitles you to behave in any way you please...



When I was down in Hobart in June, an ex-journalist recommended a book to me that he had bought at Abbey's that month. It was **Hanoi, Adieu: A Bittersweet Memoir of French Indochina** by Mandaleay Perkins (\$29.95 Tp 323pp). I've now been able to read this unusual biography. It is written in the first person by the step-daughter of the male narrator, yet she has succeeded well in explaining the regrets and lost hopes of the French residents who had to leave Hanoi at the end of colonial rule, after the Battle of Dien Bien Phu. Michel L'Herpiniere, son of a French army officer, arrived in Indochina as a lonely teenager before World War II. He grew to love the country and its people and felt ashamed of the French refusal to give Vietnam independence, and later to negotiate with Ho Chi Minh. This is an interesting and affecting read - a personal account of the daily horrors and crises in Hanoi during the 1950s. History now, but heartache then.



I later found in our Asian History General section, **Victory at Any Cost: The Genius of Vietnam's General Vo Nguyen Giap** by Cecil Currey (\$19.95 Pb 401pp incl index). Not only is he the famous general who surprised the French by defeating them, he was also the loved and admired history teacher in Michel L'Herpiniere's school. The tragedy of Vietnam has had time to be re-evaluated. Another book I want to read is the biography of **Ho Chi Minh** by William Duiker (\$45 Tp 695pp incl index). What a pity that old domino theory meant that the French were unable to negotiate successfully with this great patriot 60 years ago.

After contacting my Hobart informant, I found I'd read the wrong book! It should have been **Life in Hanoi** by Sydney educator Pam Scott (\$24.95 Pb 230pp), who twice worked in Hanoi, for many years, so much so that she felt she belonged there and found it hard to readjust to Sydney. Her book is a collection of revealing conversations with residents of Hanoi - not the expatriates passing through, but the more permanent residents, from locals to settlers. Having read **Hanoi, Adieu**, I deeply understood what the local people meant when they recalled their lives and simply said "life was hard" or "life was very difficult". Truly it was, but they accepted the past and made the most of their present. An enduring admiration comes through for the resilience, intelligence and cheerfulness of the Vietnamese, residents of a country that Scott believes is very much underestimated. Find this in Travel Literature, along with another collection of memories simply called **Hanoi Stories** (\$24.95 Pb 240pp). These stories are models of travel writing, with the attention on the local people, rather than the author, and are full of observant detail, sympathy and admiration. They will interest anyone who harbours a secret wish to live in another culture. All you need is the courage to start. Pam Scott



was not young when she made her move.

And if you are indeed thinking of living in another country, I suggest Henrietta Taylor's **Veuve Taylor** (\$29.95 Pb 277pp). This is subtitled: **A New Life, New Love and Three Guesthouses in a Small French Village**, so you can see why we put it in Travel Literature along with Peter Mayle's **A Year in Provence** (\$22.95 Pb) and Sarah Turnbull's **Almost French** (\$22.95 Pb), but it could just as well be in Australian Biography. Considering the frenetic social life led by the author before her marriage, I think there must be quite a few people walking around Mosman and environs who know this passionate and amusing woman. This frank, intimate and funny memoir will amuse and inspire lots of people.

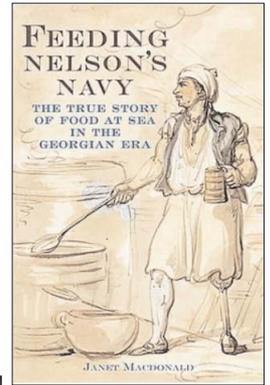
The wonderful, kindly and deeply thoughtful Donald Horne died in September. I always remember him for one of the very best Australian autobiographies, three volumes beginning with **The Education of Young Donald**. Unfortunately, these are now out of print, hopefully to be reprinted. Others will immediately think of **The Lucky Country** (out of print), a small book in which he was really criticising the administration of a country that had everything, although the phrase has come to simply mean 'a great place to be'. As it is! We have in stock: **Ten Steps to a More Tolerant Australia** (\$19.95 Pb) and **Looking for Leadership: Australia in the Howard Years** (\$29.95 Tp).

Did you see the piece in the paper about a new website (www.birdsinbackyards.net) for backyard twitchers? The Australian Museum and Birds Australia have set this up so people in the suburbs can record birds seen in their garden, or even identify mystery birds sitting on the fence. All sorts of historical information is available, so add to it if you can. If you need help, you can also consult some of the many bird guides in our Plants and Animals section on the back wall, such as **The Slater Field Guide to Australian Birds**, revised and updated in 2003 in a slender pocket shape with vinyl cover (\$32.95 343pp incl index) or Simpson and Day's **Field Guide to the Birds of Australia** 7th edition revised and updated, in a blue leatherette cover with dust jacket (\$39.95 383pp incl index) or **A Field Guide to the Birds of Australia** 7th edition 2003 with a flexible cover by Graham Pizzey & Frank Knight (\$45 576pp) or Michael Morcombe's **Field Guide to Australian Birds** revised 2003, which has a most useful glossary and a bibliography (\$45 447pp).

I came across an unusual biography called **Christina: Queen of Sweden** by Veronica Buckley (\$24.95 Pb 494pp incl index). The New Zealand author, now living in Paris, has had great reviews from writers such as Alison Weir and Stella Tillyard. In an afterword, she reminds us of the great Greta Garbo film in the 30s portraying the extraordinary Christina, who relished her power and position, but did not like the constraints that her birth put upon her. An extraordinary monarch, wonderfully learned, but not very feminine - certainly very bawdy. It was revealing to me to see how active Sweden was in the politics of Europe in the 17th century. Find this in the special subsection for Northern Europe History, at the bottom of Modern History.

Bearing in mind the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar, I went looking for suitable titles in Modern British History, but none there! (Well, the book I needed was sitting in a large pile on the ziggurat: **Trafalgar: The Men, The Battle, The Storm** by Tim Clayton and Phil Craig (\$27 Pb 444pp incl index), which is now regarded as the one and only book on Trafalgar, and is a splendid

narrative history). Meanwhile, I found several other fascinating books. First, **Feeding Nelson's Navy: The True Story of Food at Sea in the Georgian Era** by Janet MacDonald (\$70 Hb 224pp incl index). I was happy to read that food in the Age of Sail was not necessarily as bad as we have come to believe, and was sometimes better than the sailor's diet ashore, while the achievements of the Victualling Board were enormous. For instance, it seems each 'mess' (meaning a group of 5-10 men who always eat together, rather than the place where they all eat) was issued with the ingredients for their daily meal. The mess cook, for that week, collected from the ship's cook, prepared it and placed it in a net or cloth bag, which was then boiled in one of the huge coppers, then collected again. Since men were entitled to be paid for any ration they did not consume, there must have been a great deal of organisation!



The other was **Wellington's Smallest Victory: The Duke, the Model Maker and the Secret of Waterloo** by the Napoleonic Wars expert, Peter Hofschröer (\$24.95 Pb 324pp). William Siborne was the man commissioned to make a huge scale-map of the Battle of Waterloo, but unfortunately some of his research did not reflect well on the Iron Duke, who made it his business to thwart Siborne as much as possible. This is a story of spin-doctoring and "what happens when a loyal subject runs up against an establishment that will stop at nothing to suppress the truth". Sound familiar? Military historians will love the detail in this. The model has again re-emerged and is on display in the National Army Museum in London.

I also came across **Nelson's Purse** by Martyn Downer (\$29.95 Pb 329pp), which no doubt provided some of the new material for the **Trafalgar** book by Clayton and Craig. This is the account of the discovery of a major cache of material relating to Nelson's domestic life - papers, letters and even the bloodstained purse that Nelson was carrying on the day he was shot on board *HMS Victory* in 1805. The author is the man who made the discovery and spent a year of his life validating the material. A real historical detective story. We may also still have some Hb copies at Pb price, which can be found on the new Marked Down pillar near the stairs. Take a moment to look here each time you are in - you may find a treasure just for you.

If you are not one of the hundreds of people who recently bought **The CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet** (\$29.95 Pb) - and isn't it great that CSIRO might actually be making some profit! - maybe you prefer the **Low GI Diet** (as I do). If so, I recommend **The Low GI Diet Cookbook** (\$35 Lp 176pp), compiled by the original authors and including additions from famous chefs. If you were once-upon-a-time a hippie, you will especially enjoy these delicious recipes. Other books about the Low GI Diet (some of which include recipes) can be found in our Medicine & Health section, but this large collection of recipes is in our Food & Wine section.

Keep Well.

Eve

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- 6 The Secret River** by Kate Grenville (Hb \$45.00)
- 7 The White Earth** by Andrew McGahan (Pb \$22.95)
- 8 The Big Over Easy** by Jasper Fforde (Tp \$32.95)
- 9 The People's Act of Love** by James Meek (Tp \$29.95)
- 10 44 Soctland Street** by Alexander McCall Smith (Pb \$22.95)

Non-Fiction

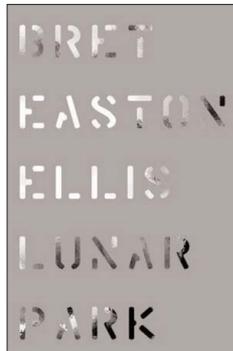
- 1 The CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet**
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by Clive & Deniss Hamilton (Pb \$24.95)

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In the most exciting novel he has written since **American Psycho** (Pb \$19.95), Ellis confounds one expectation after another, passing through comedy and mounting psychological and supernatural horror toward an astonishing resolution about love and loss, fathers and sons.



Congratulations to Penelope Nelson of Randwick, winner of the Continuum Impact competition.

Now in Paperback

In Command of History by David Reynolds

Churchill fought the war twice over - as Prime Minister and again as its premier historian. From 1948 to 1954, he published six volumes of memoirs, which secured his reputation and shaped our understanding of the conflict. Using Churchill's drafts and correspondence, Reynolds opens our eyes to Churchill the author and to the research 'syndicate' on whom he depended.

In Command of the Ocean: A Naval History of Britain 1649-1815 by N A M Rodger \$35.00

Describes with unprecedented authority and scholarship the rise of Britain to naval greatness and the central place of the Navy and naval activity in the life of the nation and government.

Colossus: The Rise & Fall of the American Empire by Niall Ferguson Pb \$26.95

Despite the conquest of two sovereign states in as many years and the presence of more than 750 military installations across two-thirds of the globe, Bush disavows any US imperialistic intent. The argument here is that in both military and economic terms, America is nothing less than the most powerful empire as it aspires to globalise free markets, the rule of law and representative government.

The Jesuits by Jonathan Wright \$27.95

Tells the fascinating, sprawling story of the most provocative and prodigious religious order in Roman Catholic history. Over the course of five centuries, members of the Society of Jesus have travelled as missionaries to every corner of the globe, founding haciendas in Mexico, exploring the Mississippi and Amazon rivers, and serving Chinese emperors as map-makers, painters and astronomers. Jesuits have been pilloried and idolised on a scale unknown to members of any other religious order - they have died the most horrible deaths and done the most outlandish deeds. Whether they were loved or loathed, the dramatic impact of the Society of Jesus could never be ignored.

The Shadow of Solomon: The Lost Secret of the Freemasons Revealed

by Laurence Gardner \$29.95. The definitive insider's account of the startling truth behind Masonic history and the centuries-long search that the fraternity has undertaken to find its own lost secrets.

The Falls by Joyce Carol Oates \$22.95

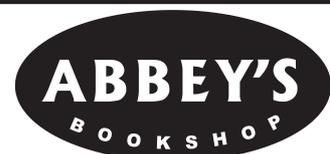
A tale of murder, loss and romance in the mist of Niagara Falls, this is the crowning achievement of Oates's stellar career to date.

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey, David Hall, Christian Hummelshoj, Lindy Jones, Ann Leahy & Cara Willetts
Author review by Joanna Penglase.

Binding Key

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