

ABBEY'S ADVOCATE

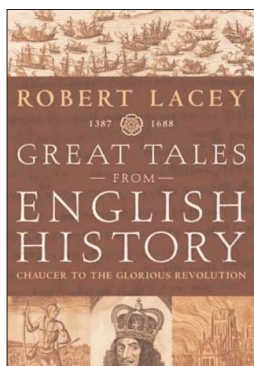
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Great Tales from English History Chaucer to the Glorious Revolution

Robert LACEY 288pp Hb \$39.95

The second volume of Lacey's unique story of England opens with the dramatic battle of Agincourt, when Henry V's bowmen defeated French armour against the odds, and ends with the 'The Protestant Wind' - King William and Mary and the Glorious Revolution. The centuries in between witnessed some of the truly classic events and stories of English history: Joan of Arc, all the drama of the Wars of the Roses, William Caxton and the first printing press in the land, King Richard III murdering his nephews in the story of The Princes in the Tower, through Henry VIII and Cardinal Wolsey, the execution of Mary Queen of Scots, the defeat of the Spanish Armada, Guy Fawkes and his plot to blow up Parliament, King Charles II hiding in the Royal Oak, the rise of Cromwell, the Restoration and the Great Fire of London. Packed with humour and insight, Lacey brings all the drama and detail of this eventful period vividly to life. *due December*

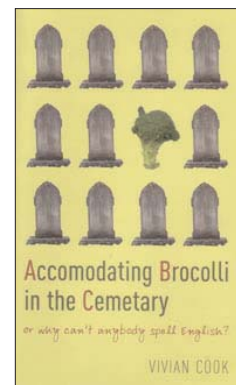


Accommodating Broccoli in the Cemetery or Why Can't Anybody Spell English?

Vivian COOK

160pp Hb \$24.95

Weird or wierd? Minuscule or miniscule? English spelling is fiendish. Yet when famous writers like Hemingway (mirricle, ungr), Ezra Pound and even Dr Suess get it wrong, how are the orthographically challenged to cope? Thankfully, English lends itself to innovation. This book is a celebration of spelling. From the Lord's Prayer (Faeder ure pup e eart in heofunum) to graffiti, from hairdressers (Curl Up n Dye) to poets, from texters to hip-hop fans (Tupac is da gangsta of da Sky), we love to play with words, as this 'gr8' book shows.

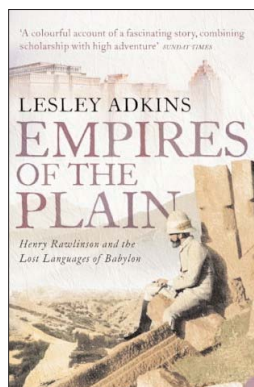


Empires of the Plain

Henry Rawlinson and the Lost Languages of Babylon

Lesley ADKINS 464pp Pb \$24.95

This is the exciting, true adventure story of Henry Rawlinson, a fearless soldier, sportsman and explorer. From 1827, he spent 25 years in India, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan. A brilliant linguist, fascinated by history, he became obsessed with cuneiform, the world's earliest writing. An immense inscription on a sheer rock face at Bisitun in Iran was the key to understanding the many cuneiform scripts and languages, and only Rawlinson had the skills to achieve the perilous ascent and copy the monument. Adkins relates in gripping detail how Rawlinson triumphed in deciphering the lost languages of Persia and Babylonia. While Rawlinson was based at Baghdad, incredible palaces with whole libraries of cuneiform clay tablets were unearthed in the ancient mounds of Mesopotamia, from Nineveh to Babylon, the great flood plain of the Tigris and the Euphrates rivers that had been fought over by so many powerful empires. His decipherment of the inscriptions resurrected these lost civilisations, revealing fascinating details of everyday life and forgotten historical events. By proving to the astonished Victorian public that people and places in the Old Testament really existed, Rawlinson assured his own place in history. *due December*



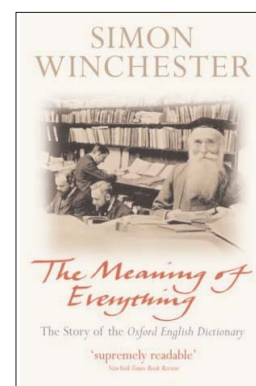
The Meaning of Everything

The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary

Simon WINCHESTER

288pp Pb \$24.95

The publication of the **Oxford English Dictionary** (OED) was one of the greatest achievements of the 19th and 20th centuries. Who better to tell its story than the author of **The Surgeon of Crowthorne** (Pb \$19.95)? After a potted history of the English language and the dictionaries that preceded it, Winchester details the fascinating history of this remarkable publication and the incredible cast of characters who produced it. Without doubt, one of the best books you will read all year. Superb!



Dave

We have limited stock of the OED on CD-ROM at \$395 (normally \$850) and also the OED itself at \$2,500 (usually \$2,999) until March 2005, or while stocks last.

Language Most Foul

Ruth WAJNRYB

256pp Hb \$29.95

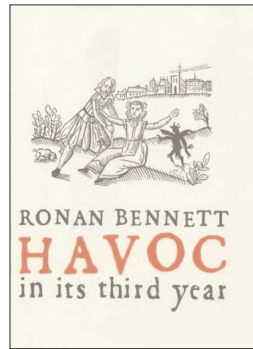
Have we always "sworn like troopers"? Has creative cursing developed as a result of our not being able to just thump someone when they make us mad? And if such verbal aggression is universal, why is it that some languages such as Japanese supposedly do not contain any offensive words? Throughout the 20th century, there seems to have been a dramatic escalation in the use - and acceptance - of aggressive, offensive language in English, both verbally and in print. How has this come about and what does it tell us about ourselves and our language? This thoroughly researched, light-hearted look at this phenomenon seeks to answer these questions.

| Christmas Hours | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------|--|
| Regular Trading Hours in December except for: | | | |
| 5 & 12 | Sundays | 10.00am - 6.00pm | |
| 18 | Sat | 8.30am - 8.00pm | |
| 19 | Sun | 9.00am - 6.00pm | |
| 20-23 | Mon-Thu | 8.00am - 9.00pm | |
| 24 | Fri Christmas Eve | 8.00am - 7.00pm | |
| 25 | Sat Christmas Day | closed | |
| 26-28 | Sun-Tue | 10.00am - 5.00pm | |
| 31 | Fri New Years Eve | 8.30am - 5.00pm | |
| January | | | |
| 1 | Sat New Years Day | closed | |
| 2-3 | Sun & Mon | 10.00am - 5.00pm | |

Havoc in Its Third Year

Ronan BENNETT 256pp Tp \$29.95

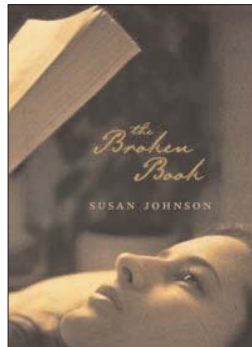
England in the 1630s was a difficult country in turbulent times. John Briggs is a governor who has kept away from intrigues to work on his farm and be with his wife, now expecting their first child. He is also, secretly, a Catholic. When he is called to settle the murder of a newborn child, Briggs finds himself drawn into matters he wants to avoid. Katherine Shay, an Irishwoman, is accused of killing her baby. Briggs wants to wait for more evidence. The ascendant puritan faction, however, demand her immediate hanging. Briggs suspects their haste has little to do with their talk of justice. What are they hiding? And does he really want to know? In the background, a rebellion is brewing. Only Briggs - and his investigation - can change the tide. Torn between home and the world, haunted by the mystery of Katherine Shay, he must finally make a stand.



The Broken Book

Susan JOHNSON 320pp Tp \$29.95

Katherine Elgin grows up in a small coastal town, moves to Sydney during the war years, blooms into a bright and beautiful and incandescent woman who wants to taste all of Life, marries a famous writer, moves to Greece during the 50s to live a bohemian writer's existence, comes back, disillusioned, to Sydney in the 60s, writes a newspaper column which brings fame, and commits suicide. Yes, she's based on Charmian Clift... This beautifully written novel does use Clift's life as its basis, but goes further in also imagining a life for Cressida Morley, who is the main character in Elgin's unfinished autobiographical novel. It is a cleverly constructed novel which takes a number of narratives and weaves them into a moving story, full of passion and questions and an artist's attempt to transcend ordinariness.

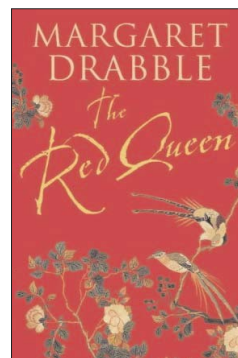


Lindy

The Red Queen

Margaret DRABBLE 368pp Pb \$29.95

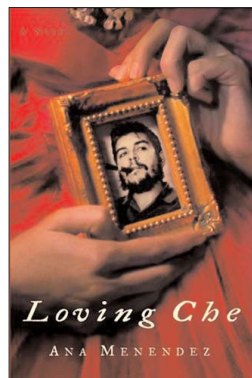
200 years after being plucked from obscurity to marry the Crown Prince of Korea, the Red Queen's ghost decides to set the record straight about her extraordinary existence - and Dr Babs Halliwell, with her own complicated past, is the perfect envoy. Why does the Red Queen pick Babs to keep her story alive, and what else does she want from her? Set in 18th century Korea and the present day, this is a rich and atmospheric novel about love and what it means to be remembered.



Loving Che

Ana MENENDEZ 240pp Pb \$20.95

In the aftermath of Castro's revolution, a man flees Cuba with his daughter's baby and finds, pinned on its clothes, three lines of a Pablo Neruda love poem. Decades later, that baby returns to Havana as a young woman; armed with only this snatch of verse, she searches, apparently in vain, for the mysterious mother who abandoned her. On her return to America, she receives a package - a collection of tattered photographs of Che Guevara and a letter, apparently from her mother, which documents a passionate affair with the hero of the revolution. Now the daughter must set out for Cuba once more to find out whether this story is true or a ravishing fantasy, bred out of the savage and surreal drama of Cuba's history.

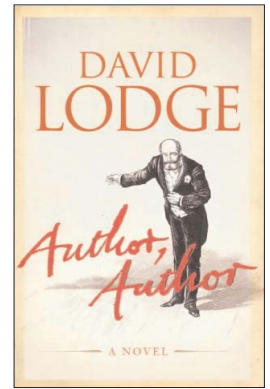


Author, Author

A Novel

David LODGE 512pp Tp \$32.95

In Lodge's last novel, *Thinks...* (Pb \$22.95), the novelist Henry James was invisibly present in quotation and allusion. Here he is centre stage, sometimes literally. The story begins in December 1915, with the dying author surrounded by his relatives and servants, then loops back to the 1880s, to chart the course of Henry's 'middle years', focusing particularly on his friendship with the genial *Punch* artist and illustrator, George Du Maurier, and his intimate but chaste relationship with the American writer Constance Fenimore Woolson. By the end of the decade, Henry is seriously worried by the failure of his books to 'sell' and decides to try to achieve fame and fortune as a playwright, at the same time that George Du Maurier, whose sight is failing, diversifies into writing novels. The consequences, for both men, are surprising, ironic, comic and tragic by turns. Du Maurier's *Trilby*, to the bewilderment of its author, becomes the bestseller of the century, and Henry anxiously awaits the first night of his make-or-break play, *Guy Domville*...



The Double

Jose SARAGAMO

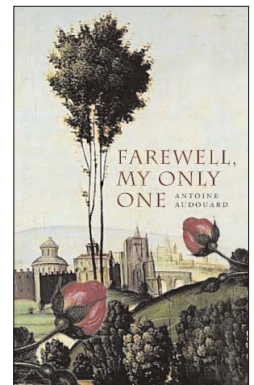
308pp Tp \$32.95

What happens when Tertuliano Maximo Afonso, a 38-year-old professor of history, discovers there is a man living in the same city who is identical to him in every physical detail, but not related by blood? And what happens when each of these men attempt to investigate each other's lives? How do we know who we are? What do we mean by identity? What defines us as individual, unique people? Could we ever come to terms with the existence of another person with our voice, our features, our everything, down to the smallest distinguishing mark? Could we change places with our double without those closest to us noticing? Dark, yet comic, Saramago's new novel can be read as an existential thriller, but it is above all a work of literature that immerses us in the essential questions of life.

Farewell, My Only One

Antoine AUDOUARD 440pp Pb \$29.95

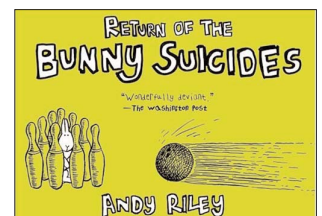
Already an international bestseller and nominated for the prestigious *Goncourt Prize* in France, this is a stunning reinvention of the classic love story of Heloise and Abelard, an affair that has so captured hearts across the centuries that it has been called "the invention of love". Set amid the vibrant colour, intellectual ferment and tumult of 12th century Paris, we follow every turn of this passionate and doomed relationship through the eyes of William, an idealistic young British monk who is in love with Heloise and devoted to Abelard. With literary grace, lush description and harrowing emotional authenticity, Audouard brings to life Abelard's scandalous passion for his educated and charming student, their flight and secret marriage, the barbaric and horrifying revenge of the girl's uncle, their long years of separation, their famous letters to each other and, finally, the demise of a broken Abelard, whose books have been burned and whose only solace is the thought of the woman who never stopped loving him.



Return of the Bunny Suicides

Andy RILEY 96pp Pb \$14.95

This is dark humour at its best, a collection of hilarious and outrageous cartoons which will appeal to anyone in touch with their evil side. Guaranteed to be fought over on Christmas day... but don't give it to your grandmother!



Biography

The Heart Garden

Sunday Reed and Heide

Janine BURKE

552pp Hb \$49.95

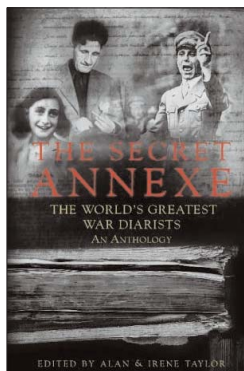
This biography of Sunday Reed brings to life a remarkable and fascinating woman. At her home, *Heide*, Sunday nurtured Australia's most significant circle of artists including Sidney Nolan, Joy Hester and Albert Tucker. Intense, demanding and complex, she was a muse to many Australian modernists, in particular Sidney Nolan, with whom she had a passionate affair. Sunday was a demanding and intense woman, known as much for her irascibility as for her generosity, a brilliant woman who fuelled the fire of Australian modernism.

The Secret Annexe

The World's Greatest War Diarists

Alan & Irene TAYLOR 720pp Hb \$65.00

During war, life hangs by a gossamer thread and many people who would otherwise not keep diaries feel the need to record what they see, feel and do. Arranged like a diary, this book tells many individual stories - some horrific, some hilarious - of many wars down the ages, with several compelling entries for each day of the year. The diarists come from all walks of life, from friend and foe, from anonymous foot-soldiers to those charged with orchestrating battle, from the Home Front to the Holocaust, from famous writers, political leaders and fighting men and women to ordinary working people enveloped by events over which they have little influence. Together they contribute to the most intimate insight into what has been described as "the most exciting and dramatic thing in life". Complementing the diary entries are comprehensive biographies and bibliographies of the diarists, as well as summaries of each of the wars covered. *due December*



A Strapper's Tale

Recollections of Kingston Town's Strapper

Peter KLEIN

400pp Tp \$29.95

Long known as a noble sport, the world of horse racing is rich in drama, glamour and wealth. This autobiography tells the tale of a crack young horseman who, at 16 years old, plunged headfirst into the rough and tumble world of champion gallopers, top trainers and colourful racing identities. Very much in his own words, Klein's version of the big doping scandals, scams and betting plunges of the 1970s makes riveting reading, while his recollections of top trainers and jockeys are eye-openers. However, it is his portrayal of GT Murphy's stables in Booran Lodge, dubbed by strappers as Pentridge Prison, that highlights the cut-throat nature of the sport. Somehow Klein survived the drugs, fights and Murphy's tongue lashings to emerge as a foreman and trainer. A very colloquial yarn. *Shelley*

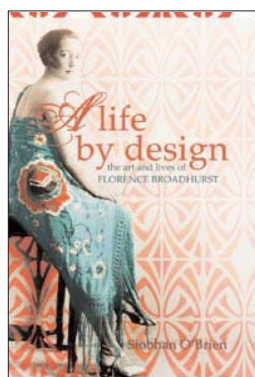
A Life by Design

The Art and Lives of Florence Broadhurst

Siobhan O'BRIEN

280pp Pb \$24.95

Florence Broadhurst lived an amazing life, but not content with reality, invented and reinvented her past to be even more interesting. She was also brutally murdered. Before her death, she was a fixture on the Sydney social scene, partly because of her flair for self-promotion, partly because of her colourful and flamboyant personality and her business as wallpaper designer extraordinaire. This biography does not get behind the facade, but it does remind the reader of an interesting (and literally self-made!) woman. Pity about the numerous typos and appalling editing. *Lindy*



Fortune's Daughters

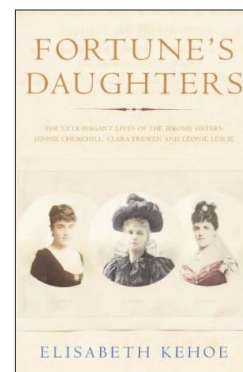
The Extravagant Lives of the Jerome Sisters

Jennie Churchill, Clara Frewen and Leonie Leslie

Elisabeth KEHOE

304pp Hb \$49.95

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 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 became Winston's mother. Clara (the good) was romanced by the dashing Moreton Frewin, 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. Kehoe's wonderful book covers more than 100 years of family history and spans 19th century New York, the fall of the second republic in France and Britain during both world wars.

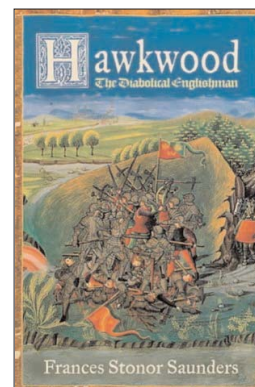


Hawkwood

The Diabolical Englishman

Frances STONOR SAUNDERS 256pp Hb \$49.95

The second son of a minor Essex landowner, John Hawkwood chose to head south in 1360 after serving as a captain in the Black Prince's wars against France. He and other freebooters besieged the Pope at Avignon, and when they were paid to go to Italy, discovered that the threat of force could be very profitable indeed. Hawkwood became the most successful mercenary leader of the time - immortalised after death by Paolo Uccello's fresco in the Duomo. This is the story of an age when everything came to have a price. But above all, this is a brilliant illumination of one of the outstanding figures of English and European history. *due December*

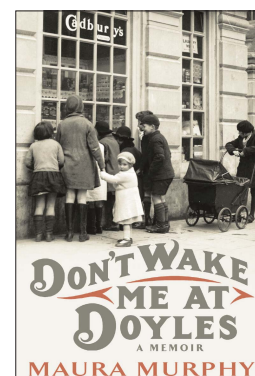


Don't Wake Me at Doyles

Maura MURPHY

416pp Tp \$35.00

When 70-year-old Maura Murphy discovered she had cancer, she left her husband of 50 years and started writing her memoirs. Born "chronically ugly and as cross as a briar" into a poor rural family in 1920s Ireland, she lived much of her adult life in England, where she raised nine children and fought to keep together a family ravaged by poverty and alcohol. The voice of a silent generation of an immigrant-Irish underclass, her tough and remarkable life is a compellingly written account of struggle and survival. With all the immediacy and impact of Frank McCourt's prize-winning *Angela's Ashes* (Pb \$29.95), Maura's voice is feisty, funny and fearless. And she needed to be all those things to survive an extraordinary series of privations and abuses.



Winston Churchill

The Wilderness Years

Martin GILBERT

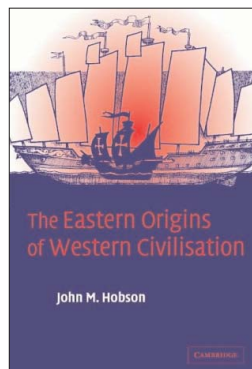
280pp Tp \$40.00

The incredible story of the 10 remarkable years leading up to the Second World War during which Churchill remained alone and abused in the political wilderness. Once Hitler came to power, Churchill stepped up his attacks on Britain's failure to rearm. His message was belittled by the Government, which fought him at every turn, even refusing him the right to broadcast. But Churchill never gave up. Despite all the Government's efforts, and as a result of Churchill's courage and perseverance, the British public came to realise the truth of his warnings. A bond was formed that was to be so vital in the years that followed, when Britain and Churchill stood together, but alone.

The Eastern Origins of Western Civilisation

John HOBSON 376pp Pb \$49.95

This book challenges the ethnocentric bias of mainstream accounts of the rise of the West. It is often assumed that since Ancient Greek times Europeans have pioneered their own development, and that the East has been a passive bystander in the story of progressive world history. The author argues that there were two processes that enabled the Rise of the 'Oriental West'. First, each major developmental turning point in Europe was informed in large part by the assimilation of Eastern inventions (e.g. ideas, technologies and institutions) which diffused from the more advanced East across the Eastern-led global economy between 500 to 1800. Second, the construction of European identity after 1453 led to imperialism, through which Europeans appropriated many Eastern resources (land, labour and markets).



Treasures of the Pharaohs

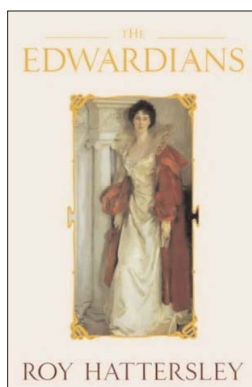
The Glories of Ancient Egypt

Delia PEMBERTON, Joann FLETCHER (consultant) 224pp Hb \$69.95
A fascinating overview of ancient Egypt's most thrilling ceremonial complex, with unrivalled colour photographs. This book celebrates ancient Egypt's greatest artistic achievements in the spectacular sacred city of Thebes and the Valleys of the Kings and Queens. Dynasty by dynasty, this book focuses on magnificent tombs, temples, wall paintings and jewellery, including the sumptuously decorated legacy of Tutankhamun. An authoritative and highly readable commentary sets the achievements of the Pharaohs in their historical and artistic context.

The Edwardians

Roy HATTERSLEY 528pp Hb \$69.95

Edwardian Britain is the quintessential age of nostalgia, often seen as the last long summer afternoon before the cataclysmic changes of the 20th century began to take form. The class system remained rigidly in place and thousands were employed in domestic service. The habits and sports of the aristocracy were an everyday indulgence. But it was an age of invention, as well as tradition. It saw the first widespread use of the motor car, the first aeroplane and the first use of the telegraph. It was also a time of vastly improved education and the public appetite for authors such as Conan Doyle, Rudyard Kipling and E M Forster was increased by greater literacy. There were signs, too, of the corner that history was soon to turn, with the problematic Boer War hinting at a new British weakness overseas and the drive for Votes for Women and Home Rule for Ireland pushing the boundaries of the social and political landscape.



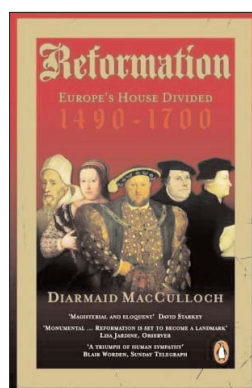
Reformation

Europe's House Divided 1490-1700

Diarmaid MacCULLOCH

The Reformation was the seismic event in European history over the past 1,000 years and one which tore the medieval world apart. Not just European religion, but thought, culture, society, state systems and personal relations were turned upside down. Just about everything which followed in European history can be traced back in some way to the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation which it provoked. The Reformation is where the modern world painfully and dramatically began, and MacCulloch's great history of it is recognised as the best modern account.

864pp Pb \$26.95

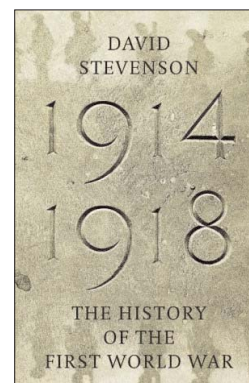


1914-1918

The History of the First World War

David STEVENSON 784pp Hb \$69.95

In the summer of 1914, Europe exploded into a frenzy of mass violence. The war that followed had global repercussions, destroying four empires and costing millions of lives. Even the victorious countries were scarred for a generation, and we still today remain within the conflict's shadow. In this major new analysis, published 90 years after the War began, Stevenson re-examines the causes, course and impact of this "war to end war", placing it in the context of its era and exposing its underlying dynamics. His book offers compelling answers to the key questions about how this terrible struggle unfolded: questions that remain disturbingly relevant for our own time.

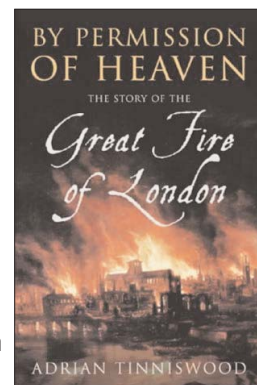


By Permission of Heaven

The Story of the Great Fire of London

Adrian TINNISWOOD 330pp Pb \$29.00

The great fire of London is an apt reminder of urban disaster 17th-century style. The story of the fire, which began in a bakery in Pudding Lane, is well-known, but as well as focusing on the fire itself - its cause, spread and its victims - Tinniswood sets out the wider background to the event. He shows how the fire not only followed the devastation of the bubonic plague, but also came in the midst of the Anglo-Dutch war, public resentment at the restoration of the pro-Catholic Charles II and lingering anti-court feeling in the Square Mile (the City had stoutly supported Cromwell 20 years earlier). He focuses on the leading personalities of the drama, the gallant Duke of York, the hapless Sir Thomas Bludworth, the fussy Samuel Pepys and the visionary Sir Christopher Wren. Above all, Tinniswood shows how anti-Catholic and xenophobic bigotry convinced Londoners for decades afterwards that an axis of evil starting in Popish Rome and ending with foreign arsonists was the real cause of the fire.



The Strange Laws of Old England

Nigel CAWTHORNE

266pp Hb \$32.95

A fun and fascinating tour of the by-ways of British legal history. Did you know that the law requiring a London taxi driver to carry a bale of hay on top of his cab to feed the horse was in force until 1976? Or that Welshmen are not allowed in the city of Chester after dark? Cawthorne has unearthed an extraordinary (and sometimes hilarious) collection of the most bizarre and arcane laws that have been enacted over the centuries. Some of which, incredibly, are still in force. It is still illegal to enter the Houses of Parliament in a suit of armour!

Nixon's Shadow

The History of an Image

David GREENBERG

460pp Pb \$26.95

To his conservative supporters in 1940s southern California, Richard Nixon was a populist everyman; to liberal intellectuals of the 50s, he was "Tricky Dick", a devious manipulator; to 60s radicals, a shadowy conspirator; to the Washington press corps, a pioneering spin doctor; to his loyal Middle Americans, a victim of liberal hatred; to recent historians, an unlikely liberal. Greenberg rediscovers these competing images of the protean Nixon, showing how each was created and disseminated in American culture and how Nixon's tinkering with his own image often backfired. During Nixon's long tenure on the national stage and through the succession of "new Nixons" so brilliantly described here, Americans came to realise how thoroughly politics relies on manipulation. Since Nixon, it has become impossible to discuss politics without asking: What is the politician's "real" character? How authentic is he? What image is he trying to project? More than what Nixon did, this fascinating book reveals what Nixon meant.

Bondi Icebergs

An Australian Icon

Malcolm ANDREWS

224pp Tp \$35.00

Paddle Steamers of the Murray River

Kit BENNETT

162pp Hb \$49.95

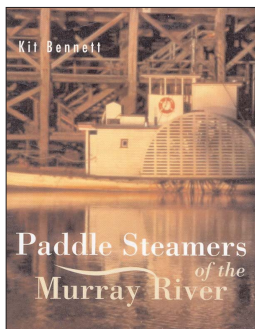
Times & Tides

A Middle Harbour Memoir

Gavin SOUTER

278pp Hb \$34.95

Here are three local histories to maximise reading pleasure this summer, since each explores the aquatic environs that us Aussies take so much for granted! **Bondi Icebergs** is a veritable photographic digest to delight young and old. Known to be the easiest swimming club in the world to join, it is notoriously difficult to maintain membership, which adds to its mystique and makes this reflection on its iconic status a perfect gift for anyone whose sentiment has tasted the club's icy waters. **Paddle Steamers** is not only charming, but a complete pleasure to pore over because much care has been taken with its design. Compiled by an out-and-out boatie, this is a tribute to the colour and romance of the many original steamers still churning the waters (for tourists) after 150 years of service. **Times & Tides** is such a classy history, it won the *Isabella Brierley Prize* before its publication. Trawling back and forth in time, Souter creates an evocative multi-layered narrative encompassing Aboriginal life, European arrival, modern suburbs and the natural history of bays, creeks and the bush. I particularly love the section on 'Cave Dwellers' and the story of the Lithuanian couple who lived in one for nearly three decades! *Shelley*

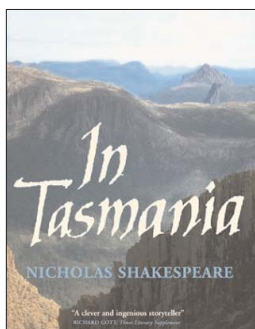


In Tasmania

Nicholas SHAKESPEARE

374pp Hb \$39.95

The settlement of Tasmania by Europeans began 200 years ago. Nicholas Shakespeare first went there, having heard of the island's exceptional beauty, and because it was famously remote. He soon decided that this was where he wanted to live. Only later did he discover a cache of letters written by an ancestor who was as corrupt as he was colourful: Anthony Fenn Kemp, the so-called "Father of Tasmania". On his mother's side, too, he had unknown Tasmanian relations: a pair of spinsters who had never left their farm except once, in 1947, to buy shoes! Their journal recounted a saga beginning in North Devon in the 1890s with a dashing but profligate ancestor who, having played tennis with the Kaiser, ended his life in disgrace in the Tasmanian bush. Shakespeare effortlessly weaves the history of the island with his multiple stories, a cast of unlikely characters from Errol Flynn to the King of Iceland, a village full of Chatwins and, inevitably, a family of Shakespeares.



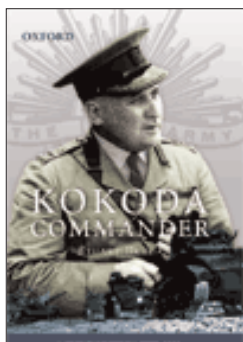
Kokoda Commander

The Life of Major-General 'Tubby' Allen

Stuart BRAGA

416pp Hb \$59.95

'Tubby' Allen led his troops in battle against three different enemies in the Middle East in six months in 1941, and won two great battles in Libya. In New Guinea in October 1942, he led the successful fightback along the Kokoda Trail. He was an outstanding commander, but jealous rivals destroyed his career. This book restores the reputation of a fine commander unjustly vilified by examining his life and military career in full.



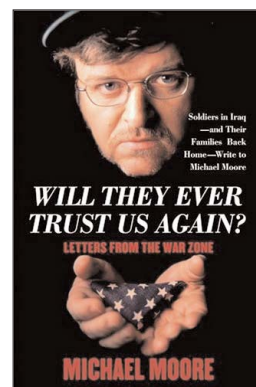
Will They Ever Trust Us Again?

Letters from the War Zone

Michael MOORE

240pp Pb \$24.95

Over the last year, Moore invited soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as their friends and family members, to send him letters. He received thousands of responses, mostly via his website, and this book presents a sampling of those transmissions. Some are short notes thanking Moore for *Fahrenheit 9/11* and ranting against Republicans, but the vast majority are personal stories written with passion and an obvious mixture of emotions - anger at the Bush administration ("I signed a contract with the government to serve in our military, and proudly, but I never thought that our military would be used in such a self-serving, crooked, and disgraceful way"), remorse ("It didn't hit me until I saw *Fahrenheit 9/11* that I was driving the ship that was sending planes to kill people"), fear ("I am wondering if this is the last Christmas I will spend with my son") and sorrow ("Chris, the dead young man, was a former student of mine. This incredibly stupid war now has a face and a name, and I find I can't quit crying"). If Moore received any pro-war letters, they are not mentioned. Nevertheless, this collection packs the emotional punch of a scud missile and will open readers' eyes to the fact that it's not just the country that's divided; the soldiers fighting overseas are too.



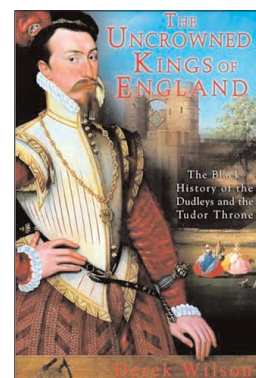
The Uncrowned Kings of England

The Black History of the Dudleys and the Tudor Throne

Derek WILSON

352pp Hb \$60.00

Throughout the Tudor Age, the Dudley family was never far from controversy. They were universally condemned as scheming, ruthless, overly ambitious charmers, with three family members even executed for treason. Yet at the opposite end of the spectrum, Edmund Dudley was instrumental in establishing the financial basis of the Tudor dynasty, while John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, led victorious armies, laid the foundations of the Royal Navy, ruled as uncrowned king, and almost landed on the throne. Foremost among the family, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, was Queen Elizabeth's favourite for 30 years (and came the closest to marrying her), and governed the Netherlands in her name. His successor, Sir Robert Dudley - scholar, adventurer and courtier - was one of the Queen's most audacious seadogs in the closing years of her reign, but fell foul of James I. The fortunes of this astonishing family rose and fell with those of the royal line they served faithfully through a tumultuous century.

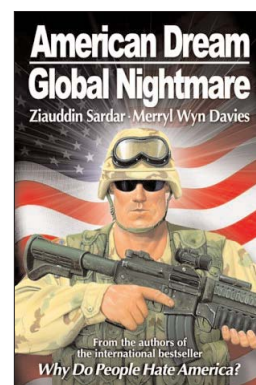


American Dream, Global Nightmare

Ziauddin SARDAR & Merryl WYN DAVIES

287pp Pb \$21.95

In this hard-hitting sequel to their bestselling **Why Do People Hate America?** (Pb \$21), the authors explore the myths that sustain America's belief in itself, and the global consequences to which these myths lead. Ranging from the vision of the Founding Fathers to the myth-making machine of Hollywood, the book investigates the persistent dream in which America is determined to live, and the dangerous "sleep of reason" necessary to sustain it. America's cultural delusions are a grotesque imbalance between fantasy and reality, a danger to us all as, propelled by power, mythology and paranoia, the US pursues its dream of empire. As recent events in Iraq and elsewhere have shown, it is a dream whose dark side is death, suffering, perpetual fear, an increasing divide between rich and poor, a squandering of the human future, and the relentless building of more and more pretexts for future wars.



The New Province for Law and Order (431pp Hb \$79.95) edited by Joe Isaac and Stuart Macintyre is a thematic history of the federal conciliation and arbitration system on the occasion of its centenary. The various chapters deal with the system's political history, the work of the tribunal, economic and social effects, the management of industrial conflict and more.

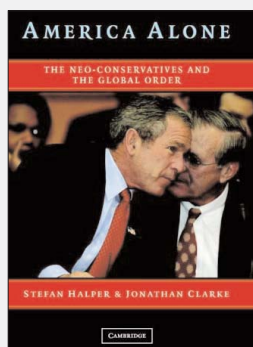
In **Five Things to Know About the Australian Constitution** (162pp Pb \$32.95), Helen Irving delves into the mystery that is the Australian Constitution by discussing the major national debates of recent years and trying to discover just what the Constitution does and does not say about them. She looks at issues such as: Who really had the power to commit Australia's troops to Iraq? How can the government detain asylum seekers without trial? Would it be unconstitutional to ban flag burning?

How the Bible Became a Book (257pp Hb \$75.00) by William Schniedewind combines recent archaeological discoveries in the Middle East with insights culled from the history of writing to address how the Bible first came to be written down and then became sacred scripture.

In **Ancient Jomon of Japan** (332pp Pb \$59.95), Junko Habu illustrates recent developments in the archaeology of the Jomon period (c. 14,500-300 BC) of Japan and presents new analysis. Unlike most prehistoric pottery-using peoples, the Jomon are thought to have been hunter-gatherers and Habu uses ecological methods of hunter-gatherer culture and behaviour to examine various aspects of Jomon culture.

America Alone: The Neo-Conservatives and the Global Order

(369pp Hb \$49.95) by Stefan Halper and Jonathan Clarke explores how George W Bush's election and the fear and confusion of September 11, 2001 combined to allow a small group of radical intellectuals to seize the reins of US national security policy. It shows how an inexperienced president was persuaded to abandon his campaign pledges and successful bipartisan diplomacy and adopt a neo-conservative foreign policy emphasising military confrontation and "nation-building".



The Ethics and Politics of Asylum: Liberal Democracy and the Response to Refugees (287pp Pb \$49.95) by Matthew Gibney draws upon political and ethical theory and an examination of the experiences of the US, Germany, the UK and Australia to consider how to respond to the challenges of asylum.

Roland Paris's **At War's End: Building Peace After Civil Conflict** (289pp Pb \$49.95) argues that transforming war-shattered states into market democracies is a basically sound idea, but that pushing the process too quickly can have damaging and destabilising effects. The book studies the 14 major peace-building missions launched between 1989 and 1999 and suggests a better approach would be to first establish a system of domestic institutions capable of managing the disruptive effects of democratisation and marketisation, and only then phase in political and economic reforms.

The Opera Lover's Companion (627pp Hb \$80.00) by Charles Osborne is a guide to the 175 most popular operas. It consists of entries that set each opera within the context of its composer's career, outline the plot, discuss the music and give relevant information on the libretto, the staging and the most famous and influential interpreters of the principal roles.

Michael Mann's **Fascists** (429pp Pb \$49.95) presents a new theory of fascism based on intensive analysis of the men and women who became fascists. It covers the six European countries in which fascism became most dominant and is the most comprehensive analysis of who fascists actually were, what beliefs they held and what actions they committed.

Dave

P.S. The superb **Herbarium** (Hb \$79.95), featured in our *Books for Christmas* catalogue, is also available in a limited edition (signed and numbered) with slipcase for \$299.00.

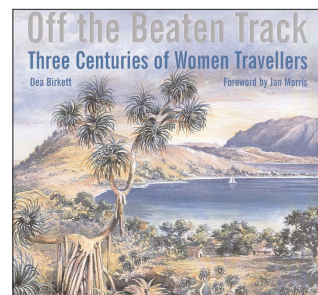
Off the Beaten Track

Three Centuries of Women Travellers

Dea BIRKETT (foreword by Jan MORRIS)

144pp Hb \$49.95

This book takes us on an exhilarating journey through three centuries of travel, in the company of such women voyagers as Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Vita Sackville-West, Isabella Bird and Rebecca West. Not only did women from the West travel to the Americas, Russia and Turkey, Arabia and the Middle East, Africa and South-east Asia, but women from all corners of the globe also visited the West. This book records their experiences and reveals where they travelled, what they looked like, how they described new landscapes and cultures in both words and images, and what they brought back with them. The common link between these travellers is that their lives are celebrated in London's National Portrait Gallery collection. While they all travelled for different reasons, collectively they reveal something about the West's relationship with other cultures and challenge our assumptions about women's achievements.



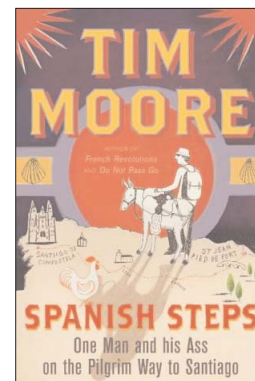
Spanish Steps

One Man and His Ass on the Pilgrim Way to Santiago

Tim MOORE

328pp Tp \$32.95

Another Tim Moore in time for Christmas is sure to lighten the mood of the holiday season. This time Tim mounts his donkey, Shinto, for the pilgrimage along the ancient 500-mile route from St Jean Pied-de-Port on the French side of the Pyrenees to the cathedral at Santiago de Compostela in Spain, housing the remains of Spain's patron saint. He derives bounteous amusement from his peculiar fellow travellers, an assortment of devout Christian pilgrims, new-age mystics and people looking for a cheap, boozy outdoor holiday. He also muses on pilgrims past, an illustrious crowd including Charlemagne, St Francis of Assisi and Chaucer's Wife of Bath. Moore himself is untroubled by any religious belief, does not speak a word of Spanish and knows nothing about donkeys. But armed with the Codex Calixtinus, a 12th-century handbook to the route and expert advice on donkey management from Robert Louis Stevenson, he sets out to master this most intransigent of beasts and to excise the cancer of cynicism from the dark heart of his sceptical soul.



Long Way Round

Ewan McGREGOR & Charley BOORMAN

320pp Tp \$29.95

In this highly entertaining book, fellow film actors and motorbike enthusiasts Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman travel 20,000 miles around the world by motorbike. They encounter many troublesome situations along the way, ranging from extreme and threatening weather to impenetrable terrain, and face challenges such as caviar fishing in the Caspian sea, wrestling with the Mongolian Olympic team and riding with the Canadian Mounties. Whilst throwing themselves enthusiastically into the culture of each new country - from Alaska to Mongolia, from Canada to Kazakhstan - the two friends also rely on each other's good humour, as the journey tests their relationship and their stamina to the limits. This is the action-packed account of the trip and a true portrait of friendship in extremis - as irreverent, engaging and articulate as Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman themselves.



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Hippocratic Oaths

Medicine and its Discontents

Raymond TALLIS

342pp Hb \$59.95

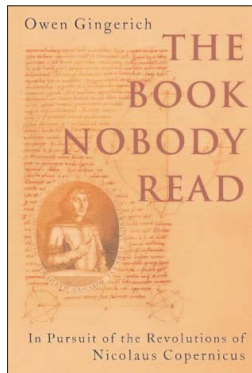
Poet, philosopher, novelist and physician, Professor Raymond Tallis is one of the world's foremost scientific philosophers. He blends philosophy with public opinion, polemic and personal experience to bridge the disjunction between the health care we believe we are entitled to expect and the difficult realities of what is possible. In a series of fiercely stimulating and impassioned arguments, Tallis looks at the truth behind recent public health scares; why we continue to incorrectly treat our bodies as if they were machines, separate from ourselves; and why the exploding popularity of alternative therapies is bad for doctors and patients alike. This book is the summation of a lifetime's thought and medical practice by one of the most singular stars in the British scientific firmament.

The Book Nobody Read

In Pursuit of the Revolutions of Nicolaus Copernicus

Owen GINGERICH 306pp Hb \$39.95

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.



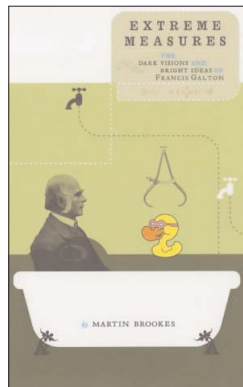
Dave

Extreme Measures

The Dark Visions and Bright Ideas of Francis Galton

Martin BROOKES 298pp Hb \$49.95

Galton was one of the great Victorian polymaths. Yet despite his extraordinary life and the influence of his science, he is hardly a household name. He was a true eccentric whose experiments included statistically determining the ugliest women in Britain. Aberdeen scored highest! But it was in the field of genetics that he made his lasting impression. Setting out to single-handedly measure mankind, he became the first person to describe human variety in scientific terms. It was on these foundations that the modern field of human genetics was built. Through the story of Galton's colourful life, Martin Brookes examines the legacy of his scientific work and takes us on a fascinating journey to the heart of the modern debate on genetics research.



Life's Solution

Inevitable Humans in a Lonely Universe

Simon CONWAY MORRIS 650pp Hb was \$49.95 now \$35.00

This latest offering from the author of *Crucible of Creation* (Pb \$32.95) explores the theme of convergence in evolution. Unlike Stephen Jay Gould, who believed that running the tape of life over and over would result in a different outcome each time, Conway Morris believes that certain solutions to life's problems would be (and actually have been) repeated. He is convinced that evolution - far from being a random, directionless process - shows deep patterns and perhaps even a purpose. After examining instances of convergence in the history of life on Earth, he discusses its implications for intelligent life in the universe.

Dave

Going Native

Living in the Australian Environment

Michael ARCHER & Bob BEALE

358pp Tp \$35.00

This is a controversial and practical book. It paints a graphic picture of how we are going so wrong, but shows that the answers are all around us. Our whole approach to living on the Australian continent is unsustainable, and our time is running out. We must totally reinvent the way we think about, and make our living from, the land and its natural resources. We must "think ourselves into the country" and change our ideas of farming, urbanisation and conservation, so all three go hand in glove. This book is a beginning, not a solution; it is a gateway to the future of resource management, rather than the out-and-out environmental looting of the past 200 years. If you are interested in leaving a natural legacy for our grandchildren, read this brave book.

Shelley

Astonishing Animals

Tim FLANNERY & Peter SCHOUTEN

224pp Lp \$50.00

Schouten's beautifully detailed paintings and Flannery's thought-provoking text bring to life these astonishing animals that represent evolution at its most remarkable, and nature at its most beautiful and bizarre. Here are sumptuous birds of paradise, amazing soft-shell turtles, science-fiction-like deep water fish, frogs that resemble tomatoes and the most extraordinary bats. The text accompanying each species is full of interesting facts and stories, and covers extreme



environments, specialised diets, bizarre reproduction and strange worlds. As Flannery observes, this collection lifts readers out of their everyday perception of our place, and other creatures' places, in nature. To imagine the life of a creature like the hairy seadevil takes us into another realm, for it lives under pressure that would crush us in an instant, in a world of impenetrable darkness and freezing cold, with no edges or ends. No matter how weird these animals look, each one really exists and can be found somewhere on the planet today. With just one exception... one of the animals in this book does not exist. But we're not telling which. You'll have to guess!

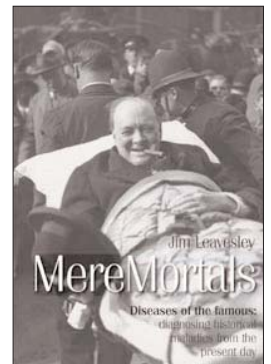
Mere Mortals

Diseases of the Famous

Diagnosing Historical Maladies from the Present Day

Jim LEAVESLEY 356pp Pb \$29.95

This is a gripping compilation of the medical misfortunes of more than 30 well-known characters from history. With Leavesley's typical light touch and whimsical style, these informative speculations on the fate of these men and women make for compelling reading. Find out the answers to these fascinating questions: Did Henry VIII actually have syphilis? Why did Rasputin take so long to die? Was George III as mad as they all said he was? How did Franklin D Roosevelt manage to keep secret the fact that he could not walk? What really killed Napoleon? This engrossing book is perfect bedside reading!



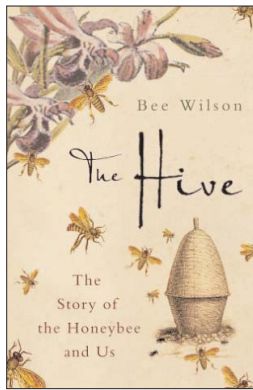
The Hive

The Story of the Honeybee and Us

Bee WILSON

308pp Hb \$39.95

Ever since men first hunted for honeycomb in rocks and daubed pictures of it on cave walls, the honeybee has been seen as one of the wonders of nature: social, industrious, beautiful and terrifying. Aptly named, Bee Wilson recounts the astonishing tale of all the weird and wonderful things that humans believed about bees and their 'society' over the ages. It ranges from the honey delta of ancient Egypt to the Tupelo forests of modern Florida, taking in a cast of characters including Alexander the Great and Napoleon, Sherlock Holmes and Mohammed Ali. This is also a history of ideas, taking us through the evolution of science, religion and politics, and a social history which explores the bee's impact on food and human ritual.



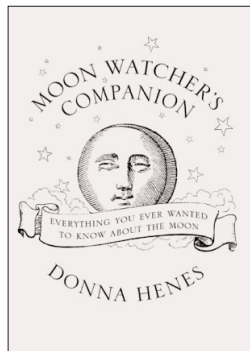
Moon Watcher's Companion

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About the Moon

Donna HENES

144pp Hb \$29.95

Humanity has always been fascinated by the mysteries of the moon. Its enigmatic cyclical changes have made observers ponder and dream, have inspired poets and scientists and story tellers. This fascinating compendium draws on lunar science, myth, folklore and poetry from around the world to examine the pull that the moon continues to exert on the minds of the people who gaze at it. This beautifully packaged and easy-to-read collection gathers together such diverse information as a comprehensive list of animals traditionally linked to the moon, facts and figures about lunar geography, prayers and invocations traditionally addressed to the moon from around the world and much more. Both inspiring insight into ancient beliefs and lore, and practical guide to understanding its strange power and meanings, this will appeal to anyone who has ever wondered and wanted to know more about the moon. *due December*



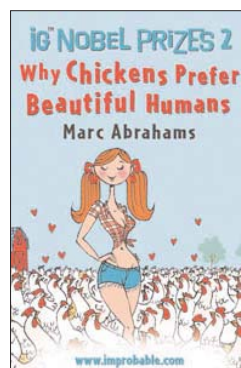
Ig Nobel Prizes 2

Why Chickens Prefer Beautiful Humans

Marc ABRAHAMS

224pp Pb \$29.95

Every *Ig Nobel Prize* winner has done something that first makes people laugh, then makes them think. Included in this new edition are: the Dutch scientist who investigated homosexual necrophilia in mallard ducks, the Swedish team that looked into chickens' preferences in humans, and the man who made it possible for someone to rent the entire country of Liechtenstein for corporate events. Sometimes, as in the latter case, *Ig Nobel Prizes* could not be awarded without the entire nation getting behind the researchers. As before, there is an irresistible blend of serious science and complete incredulity at the way the human quest for knowledge takes us into ever more obscure areas of research. *due December*



Dougal the Garbage Dump Bear

Matt DRAY

32pp Hb \$19.95

Another appealing picturebook which transcends age barriers! Dougal is a shy little bear who, through no fault of his own, suffers the ignomy of being discarded. But as he learns, by the end of the book, "sometimes bad things happen so that good things can happen. You just had to make the best of it." As Dougal is a real toy bear, the story is told in photographs. A heartwarming story (and some of the proceeds go to the Leukaemia Foundation).

Tales of Hans Christian Andersen

Translated by Naomi LEWIS

207pp Hb \$39.95

Next year is the bicentenary of Andersen's birth, so there will be a number of editions of his tales issued in celebration. This particular volume, translated by a leading authority on his work, keeps the conversational tone, sly humour and the darker side of his fairy tales. 13 of the most popular are presented here, with quirky illustrations by Joel Stewart, which add a perfectly judged whimsical touch. A beautiful addition to any bookshelf!

There Once Was a Boy Called Tashi

Anna & Barbara FIENBERG & Kim GAMBLE

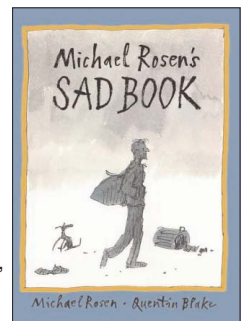
32pp Hb \$27.95

Tashi needs no introduction to younger readers, but this glorious book is the first in full-colour picture book format. It tells of Tashi, a brave and resourceful fellow, who saves his village from the rampagings of Gloomin the ogre. The text is comparable to one of the tales in the readers, so it is suitable for both pre-schoolers and those beginning to read for themselves. Delightful!

Michael Rosen's Sad Book

Michael ROSEN & Quentin BLAKE 32pp Hb \$27.95

Is there anything worse than losing a loved one? Michael Rosen, renowned children's author, lost his son and this moving book is both a tribute to Eddie and a journey through grief. It is told simply and to great effect in words and illustrations - perhaps the masterwork of Quentin Blake, who in a few deft lines conveys the sadness - and the strength - of Rosen's loss. Powerful, touching, healing, beautiful - a resource for any age.



At the Beach

Postcards from Crabby Spit

Roland HARVEY

32pp Hb \$24.95

Henry and his family head for Crabby Spit for the summer holidays. Having promised Grandma they'll write, they send her postcards. Even more entertainingly, the story unfolds in Harvey's trademark detailed and witty illustrations! Kids and adults alike will have a lot of fun with this book; particularly suited for the reader who enjoys poring over pictures.

I Wish I Had a Dinosaur

Ian ANGGABRATA & Minga ANGGAWAN

28pp Hb \$19.95

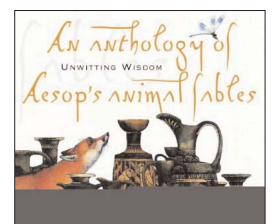
This rather sweet celebration of a child's imagination is a lovely gift for pre-school ages. A little girl lists all the advantages of having a dinosaur - she needn't run past the dog next door, or catch a bus, and Dad would have help in the garden and Mum at the supermarket. For a limited time, this comes with a free red dinosaur toy!

An Anthology of Aesop's Animal Fables

Retold and Illustrated by Helen WARD

60pp Hb \$24.95

Without a doubt, this is one of the most attractive books of the year, and appeals to the adult connoisseur as much as the youngster first coming into contact with Aesop's fables! Large, clean pages with an appealing font and detailed, naturalistic illustrations of assured artistic merit and expressive style, plus clear retellings of a dozen fables, make this a gift for readers of all ages.



If you need help deciding on gift selections for children from babies to teens, feel free to contact Lindy on 0264 3111 or email her at lindyj@abbey.com.au.



Eleven Minutes by Paulo Coelho (Pb \$22.95). Sublime! Like most of his millions of readers, I was once again seduced into his world of intriguing characters, gentle stories that blend engaging plots with spiritual drama and easy to read philosophy. But his newest release explodes with an even more exciting flavour - sex and scandal! This has all the stuff we loved in **The Alchemist** (Pb \$22.95) and **Veronika Decides to Die** (Pb \$24.95), but appeals to a wider audience with its daring, saucy tale of a Brazilian prostitute who travels to Geneva and falls in love with an iconoclastic painter. Coelho then uses his auteur signature of character spirituality to let us into the world of Maria and her battling conscience. Blends classic styles with the spice of erotic, contemporary fiction. Gorgeous! *Diana*

I enjoyed **Twilight of Love: Travels with Turgenev** by Robert Dessaix (Hb \$40). Part biography and part travelogue, it is most of all an intelligent exploration of the changing idea of love. *Bruce*

Having read about 250 books this year, I'd have to say **The White Earth** (Tp \$29.95) by Andrew McGahan is my absolute pick of them all. A gripping storyline, believable characters, skillful narrative and brilliant style - and every single person I've given this to read has been reluctant to put it down once they've started! *Lindy*

Mortification: Writers Stories of their Public Shame (Pb \$24.95). This is a collection of short stories by well known authors that tells of the trials and tribulations of being a writer. Sometimes hilarious and always humbling, the events described made me laugh out loud at times. Although I work in a bookstore, I can identify with some of these experiences and have sometimes seen them happen in front of me. You don't have to be a writer to enjoy a funny story. *Kath*

Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon (Pb \$29.95). One of the central characters in this novel is a Library known as the "Cemetery of Lost Books", containing all those books "who" have been forgotten. Our hero is introduced to the cemetery as a young boy and asked to choose a book. He does so and thus begins an adventure in Barcelona during the Franco era. *Chris*

Sean Penn: His Life and Times by Richard Kelly (Hb \$49.95). This unusually constructed narrative builds a complex picture of an actor who is a man of more interest (and interests) than the celebrities and films he is associated with. Wonderful. *Cara*

Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded 27th August 1883 by Simon Winchester (Pb \$24.95). This isn't just a book about a volcano. There is the fact that the recent completion of the undersea telegraph cable made the eruption a global media event within hours of it happening. There is the fascinating look at the Dutch colonialists and there is the part the eruption played in a fundamentalist uprising in the region. Not that the volcano itself isn't interesting - the final eruption was loud enough to be heard in Perth, it's effect on the tides could be measured as far away as France, and the dust it put in the atmosphere caused such spectacular sunsets that firemen in the US mistook them for nearby fires! Combine all this with a brilliant writer and you've got a fabulous read. *Dave*

I discovered Simon Winchester's **Korea: A Walk Through the Land of Miracles** (Pb \$24.95), originally published in 1988. I found it quite interesting, mainly due to the fact that I'm married to a Korean and I read it just before we went to visit the country. Things have moved on a little since it was written, but still many things remain the same. *Christian*

I can't exactly say I enjoyed these, as the subject matter is heart-stoppingly disturbing, but I was riveted to **Seeds of Deception: Exposing Industry and Government Lies About the Safety of the Genetically Engineered Foods You're Eating** by Jeffrey Smith, and **Joe Cinque's Consolation** by Helen Garner (both Tp \$30.00). Before reading Smith's book, I had no particular opinion on genetically modified food, but leaned towards thinking that it could be a good thing. I had no idea how little is understood about GM foods (especially by their manufacturers) and how untested and dangerous GM foods are being forced into the market, while any attempt to question, or adequately test the process, leads to sacking, lawsuits and silencing. Lindy repeatedly urged me to read Helen Garner's book, and when I finally got around to starting it, I wondered why I hadn't picked it up immediately. Joe Cinque was a popular, successful young engineer when his girlfriend drugged him and injected him with a fatal dose of heroin. It took him days to die. The murderess served four years in detention and is now free and somewhat of a celebrity, yet the letter of the law was upheld in this case. Garner discovers that the law is not necessarily about justice, so where does one turn for consolation after such a permanent and appalling tragedy? *Ann*

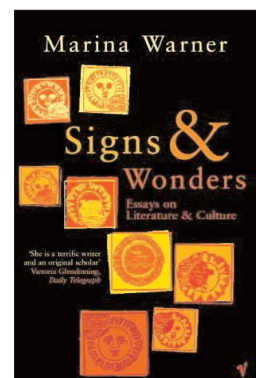
This Diary Will Change Your Life 2005

BENRIK LTD 320pp Tp \$32.95
Benrik Ltd are Ben Carey and Henrik Delehag and their aim is to introduce a welcome element of anarchy into people's everyday lives. Part instruction manual, part therapy, part religious cult, every page of this radical diary brings a new dawn, with a different daily instruction to help you escape routine. Thoroughly interactive and dedicated to giving you a belly-aching laugh each day, it also bestows one third of each page for your own agenda-setting. May 4 is "Hunter-Gatherer Day" and September 12 is "Try to Sell your Used Knickers Day", while January 28 is "Find Yourself Day" and has a wonderful graphic chart to help you plot out your personality. Although busy corporate deal breakers may not have time for this artful diary, I highly recommend it for glum teenagers, open-minded retirees, unfriendly shop assistants and the stressed out under-employed who spend hours on the internet as this has web links to global phenomena. *Shelley*



Signs and Wonders Essays on Literature and Culture

Marina WARNER 528pp Pb \$27.95
Warner has been writing essays for over 25 years and this collection defies hyperbole; there aren't superlatives to describe how wonderful it is. This draws on her changing ideas on literature and culture, fiction, drama, religion, language and fairy tales. Finding unexpected links between the images of literature, art and politics, she weaves her own webs of ideas and beliefs as she unravels our fascination with language and obscenity, and questions the way we think about our bodies and minds. This is glorious and has been rightly described as a collection of original marvels. Buy this book, you won't regret it! *Cara*
due December

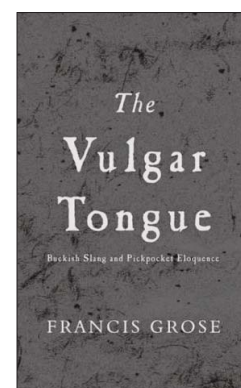


Library An Unquiet History

Matthew BATTLES 266pp Pb \$24.95
After reading this, it's inconceivable that anyone could think of a library as boring! This is an adventure; from classical scriptoria to medieval monasteries, from the Vatican to the British Library and from Boston to Baghdad. We take in the clay-tablet collections of ancient Mesopotamia and the legendary libraries of Alexandria, mourn the burned scrolls of the Qing Dynasty and the book-pyres of the Hitler Youth. The author explores what he calls the two contradictory impulses of a library: to exalt canons of literature (securing and celebrating the best writing) and the desire to contain all forms of human knowledge - to keep all the books! Reading of how libraries shaped, inspired and obliterated knowledge is fascinating, much food for thought for bibliophiles everywhere. *Cara*
due December

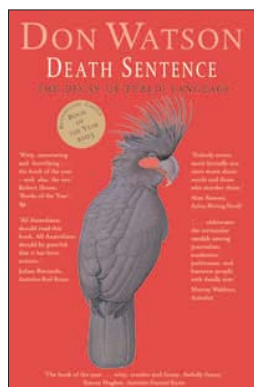
The Vulgar Tongue Buckish Slang and Pickpocket Eloquence

Francis GROSE 316pp Hb \$24.95
This is a transcript of the original 1796 alternative dictionary of 'The Vulgar Tongue', educating readers in the correct usage of colloquialisms, slang and old English idioms. Includes familiar entries such as "mealy-mouthed", originally meaning "over-modest", and revives classics that should never have been forgotten, such as "apple dumplin' shop" for a woman's bosom, "nit squeegee" (a hairdresser) and "flaybottomist" (a teacher). So, you won't be a 'Jason's Fleece' if you buy this book. In fact, take full advantage of this book and you'll be much less of a 'nigmenog'. No true aspiring vulgarite should leave home without it.



Death Sentence

Don WATSON 198pp Pb \$22.95
Watson is deeply offended by the "lifeless sludge" that passes for public language and this is his response to years of impenetrable communiqués that have been churned out by government departments, news media, corporations and politicians (although I wonder how much of it he was responsible for himself!) He raises many valid points that bear serious thought and I applaud his endeavour, but I feel it's too little, too late. Orwell has already described the decay of language and now we are living with the consequences.



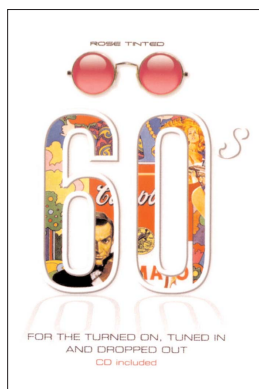
Cara

Between You and I A Little Book of Bad English

James COCHRANE 154pp Hb \$29.95
John Humphrys, Britain's best-loved radio journalist, introduces a new edition of this waspish review of the massacre of the Queen's English. This handy guide is a valiant attempt to salvage some parts of good usage from the linguistic dystopia of modern Britain. For the most part, the examples of bad English come from people in the public eye who consider themselves educated and who ought to know better. This should be the constant bedside companion of any person of sensibility who, against all odds, wants to save our language.

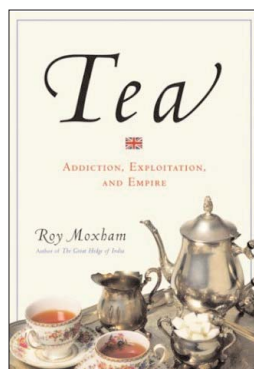
Rose Tinted 60s A Perfect View of the Past

MILK (Moments of Intimacy, Laughter & Kinship) Hb & DVD \$34.95
A celebration of the fashion, language, advertising, movies, television, events, individuals, trends, technology and music from the 1960s. This is a trip down memory lane. If you have forgotten some of the words to the theme songs of *The Beverley Hillbillies* or *Gilligan's Island*, they are all here. Dedicated to the hip, cool and funky, this book features 100 original nostalgic themes plus a DVD. Also available: **Rose Tinted 50s** (Hb & DVD \$34.95).



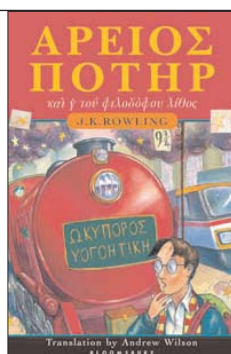
Tea Addiction, Exploitation and Empire

Roy MOXHAM 224pp Pb \$24.95
Moxham, author of *The Great Hedge of India* (Pb \$24.95), looks at British colonial aspirations and empire-building through the very interesting lens of that most refined beverage, tea. Yes, the Boston tea party is covered but, more incisively, he shows the connections of the East India Tea Company, opium and slave labour. He concludes with an eye-opening account of a year as an assistant manager on a tea plantation in Malawi in the 1960s.



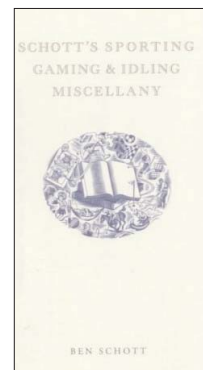
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (Ancient Greek Edition) Harrius Potter et Philosophi Lapis

J K ROWLING both 250pp Hb \$39.95
Harry Potter, unaware of his special powers, thinks he is an ordinary boy, until he is rescued by a beetle-eyed giant of a man. He enrolls at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, learns to play Quidditch and does battle in a deadly duel. Now in Ancient Greek and Latin.



Schott's Sporting, Gaming and Idling Miscellany

Ben SCHOTT 160pp Hb \$29.95
Have you always wanted to know the rules of elephant polo; the perils of the Cresta Run; the intricacies of the Palio; the breathtaking antics of Kabaddi; or why surfing is the 'Sport of Kings'? Which other volume will inform you of the importance of snooker to nuns; the correct temperature of a 'hot bath'; the words of the Haka (and *Swing Low Sweet Chariot*); the myriad participants of the 'Wacky Races'; or what W G Grace considered cheating? Here you will stumble across famous sleepers; tips for solving cryptic crosswords; pub games and parlour games; or every sporting ailment from joggers' nipple to housemaid's knee.

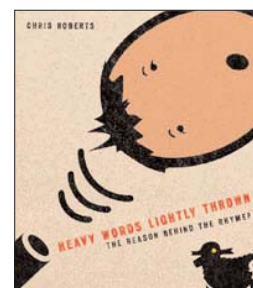


One Hundred Muddy Paws for Thought

Simon WHALEY 96pp Pb \$10.95
Our humans pretend to get upset when we get muddy, but we know they expect it really. At last, gems of doggy wisdom on how to wear your mud with pride! On those wet, windy, wintry walks when you're as dirty and as slimy as you can get, don't slip and slide frenetically as you try to clamber over a stile. Let your human sweep you up into their arms and gently carry you over, whilst you watch the remnants of that cow pat transfer from your coat to theirs. Responsible humans like to know where you are at all times. Be considerate and tell them where you've been by leaving a trail of muddy footprints across all floor surfaces. It's only since humans have domesticated dogs that you've had to be clean. Go ancestral. Get dirty!
due December

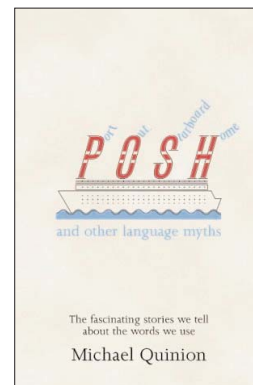
Heavy Words Lightly Thrown The Reasons Behind the Rhyme?

Chris ROBERTS 176pp Hb \$35.00
Was Little Jack Horner a squatter? *Baa Baa Black Sheep* a bleat about taxation? Is *Jack and Jill* about loss of virginity? And *Goosie Goosie Gander* about prostitution? This ingenious book delves into the hidden meanings of the most innocuous-sounding nursery rhymes, exposing a seething and subversive mass of sexual innuendo, religious hatred, financial hardship and political rebellion. It contains a multitude of the kind of surprising nuggets you want to pass on to your friends. It makes us look afresh at the words we parroted innocently as children and provides an accessible lesson in history along the way. Each rhyme (and an additional chapter on sex and relationships in nursery rhymes) is illustrated by a contemporary artist, varying in style from the traditional to the modern and bringing a whole new dimension to the reasons behind the rhyme. *due December*



Port Out, Starboard Home And Other Language Myths

Michael QUINION 304pp Hb \$35.00
What is the true origin of the phrase "one fell swoop"? Does the word 'honeymoon' really derive from an old Persian custom of giving the happy couple mead, a honey wine, for the first month after the wedding? The rapid growth of the internet and the use of email have increased the circulation of (usually) false tales about the evolution of language. In this entertaining and fascinating new book on the origins of words and expressions, Quinion retells the mythic tales that have become popular currency - the word 'posh' deriving from 'port out, starboard home' - and also tries to find and explain the true stories behind the origins of phrases. He offers explanations of why and how stories about words are created, and how misunderstanding word origins, while usually harmless, can have serious consequences.

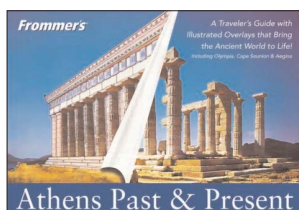


It might be a good time to check out our Audio books section again - with some long car trips coming up? - as we've expanded this section to make more room for the excellent Non-Fiction and Children's titles that are becoming available. We now have a separate stand for Kids Audio in front of Peter Milne's desk and a new high stand for Crime Audio beside his desk. Some suggestions: Frances Hodgson Burnett's **The Secret Garden** (\$28.95, 2 CDs), Kerry Greenwood's **Murder in Montparnasse** (\$36.95 4 cassettes, \$29.95 4 CDs), Life of Pi by Yann Martel (\$44.95, 5 CDs, 6 hrs) and Ruth Cracknell's **Journey from Venice** (\$39.95 cassette). Don't forget that Poetry Audio is shelved in Poetry, and Shakespeare Audio is in Shakespearean Studies.

One of my old favourite cookery books in early Penguin was Lesley Blanch's **Around the World in Eighty Dishes** (now out of print). She married Romain Gary, the famous author and French diplomat, which explains her many moves to different countries. She was more famous, however, for her own wildly adventurous life, and as the author of **The Wilder Shores of Love** (\$24.95 Pb), about four of those adventurous 19th century women. I was pleased to see a reissue of one of her books about the tumultuous Caucasus (very much in the news these days), **Sabres of Paradise: Conquest and Vengeance in the Caucasus** (\$43 Pb 495pp). I've forgotten the details of her romantic Russian associations, but will no doubt find them out one day, since the blurb says she is just completing her autobiography - which will be some story, I assure you! - and also that she is just turning 100 years old. This classic reissue is about Chechnya and Daghestan, united under the Muslim leader, the Lion of Daghestan - Imam Shamil - holding at bay the Russian army 1834-1859. Relevant today. Being a re-issue, the typeface is a bit old-fashioned, but the book remains authoritative and spirited. Lesley Blanch is often consulted by current historians.

Our Classical Studies section, next to Ancient Roman History, may not be an area of bestsellers, but it is appreciated by quite a few Abbey's customers. I notice some attractive new books arriving in the *Ancients in Action* series. These were originally published by Bristol Classical Press, now taken over by Duckworth, who have decided to put out these short introductions to major figures of the Ancient World for the general reader. Very attractive format with lovely pictorial covers. Titles include **Catullus** by Amanda Kolson Hurley and **Lucretius** by John Godwin (both \$36.50 Pb).

Opposite Ancient Roman History, in Ancient Greek History, there is a terrific book that might also be in Travel (published by Frommers, after all), **Athens: Past and Present** (\$33.95). In an oblong format, this offers 16 colour photos of the most famous buildings in Athens and other places, including Olympia, with an overlay showing how the buildings looked originally. Plus information of course.



In Medieval History, there is a gorgeous book on the **Bayeux Tapestry** (\$60 Large Hb 233pp incl notes), showing the tapestry complete in colour (and repeated in black and white) with introduction and descriptive commentary by

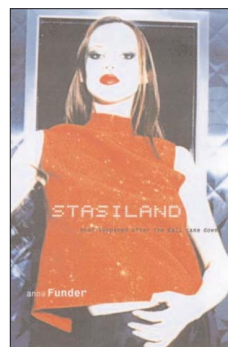
David Wilson, former Director of the British Museum.

Christmas is coming, so it's time to choose some books from the terrific Children's book department upstairs. You can get picture paperbacks from \$6 or \$7, or paperback fiction, chapter books for younger readers, picture books (both fiction and non-fiction), classic stories, nursery rhymes, activity books and lift-the-flap books. Have you passed through the **Gruffalo** (\$14.95 Pb) stage yet? This is a most marvellous picture paperback (that has sold over 250,000 copies) about a mouse in a wood who manages to scare off everyone by talking up an imaginary monster. Now there is a sequel, **Gruffalo's Child** (\$26.95, only Hb so far). Lindy Jones gives you her opinion about many of the new titles by putting little Post-it notes on the covers. If you're still unsure about which book is suitable, another option is to buy an Abbey's Gift Voucher, for any amount you like, and let your young friends have the fun and responsibility of choosing for themselves from a really interesting selection, whether it be Fiction, History or Science.

Let me remind you of the Classics section downstairs, where you can still buy a good book for less than \$10. For instance, for only \$7.95 you can have **A Tale of Two Cities** by Charles Dickens. There is a small section at the start of Classics where we shelve by title - because the author is unknown or unlikely! - for instance, the **Letters of Abelard and Heloise** (\$14.95 Pb).

If you're wondering what book to choose this Christmas for a very well-read friend, let me suggest Robert Dassaix's latest, **Twilight of Love: Travels with Turgenev** (\$40 Hb 275pp). If they have it already, you should keep it and enjoy it yourself! Is it Travel, or Memoirs, or Literary Criticism, or Biography? (and if so, of whom?) - it doesn't matter! If we had a Belles Lettres section, that's where it would go. The important thing is that these are the musings on love and death of an intelligent, tolerant, educated, imaginative and well-read person, able to write elegantly and truthfully. The voice of this person comes clearly to you. You will enjoy his conversation with you.

The other book I want to press upon you is Anna Funder's **Stasiland** (\$24 Pb 288pp), which I am happy to say won the *Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction*. I didn't read this book when it first came out in 2000. After all, East Germany seemed a very grey and dreary place, and I thought I knew all about their Secret Police. But I was very wrong. Anna was a guest at our latest Zonta 'Meet the Author' event, so I read her book, which I now know is one of those important books that should be available for a very, very long time because it not only tells a riveting story, it is also about a ghastly phenomenon that no longer exists, but should not be forgotten. Perhaps one in six of the population was busy informing on their friends and colleagues. This is not a dull academic history. It is a collection of personal stories of people who were either victims of the Stasi Police or members of the Stasi Police themselves, told with clear-eyed honesty by a writer of real talent and sympathy. Compare it to George Orwell, but this is true. Compare it to John Le Carre, who might also



have been close to the truth. But you will want to keep this book and make sure others read it too. It includes some truly amazing facts and Anna Funder is a very brave person to have done all the research.

Peter Robb's **A Death in Brazil** (\$22) is now out in paperback and we should still have some signed copies left. This is a marvellous book combining history, politics, geography, sex and food, written by someone who is a great appreciator of life and, after many visits to this enormous country, seems to understand the unknown Brazil. Highly recommended. Don't forget he also wrote those two bestsellers, **M: A Biography of Caravaggio** (\$35 Pb) and **Midnight in Sicily** (\$30 Pb). I suspect he enjoys a dangerous life?

A new Australian author to read is Gail Jones from Western Australia. I've just read her second novel, **Sixty Lights** (\$29.95 Pb 249pp), which was listed for the *Booker Prize*. This is a wonderful story set in Australia, India and London in the late 1800s, about a young woman who is besotted with photography. Not everyone will appreciate her musings about light and luminescence, but the story of her life is good old-fashioned entertainment. Recommended.

I found a most interesting book in Literary Criticism, **The Story of the Voyage: Sea-Narratives in 18th Century England** by Philip Edwards (\$59.95 Pb 244pp incl index). Many people who collect Travel Literature will appreciate this book, which is a study of the way in which voyages were reported, rather than a resume of the publications themselves. Was the emphasis to be on matters of interest to the general reader or the scientific information for later explorers? The word "voyage" is important, with so much more depth of meaning. The author acknowledges the Hakluyt Society, so I checked to make sure we still have the Penguin Classic edition of Richard Hakluyt's **Voyages and Discoveries** (\$16.95 Pb 443pp).

Don Watson's popular book, **Death Sentence: The Decay of Public Language**, is now out in paperback (\$22.95). Or if you've already read and agreed with his comments, you can now enjoy his **Watson's Dictionary of Weasel Words, Contemporary Clichés, Cant and Management Jargon** (\$32.95 Hb 354pp). Best read aloud with a sympathetic friend or two. The title tells it all.

If you didn't get the chance to go to the Sydney Theatre to hear David Hare's monologue, **Via Dolorosa**, about Israel and Palestine, you can read the script. Published by Faber (\$22.95 Pb 72pp), it includes the text of a memorial lecture given by Hare at Westminster Abbey entitled *When Shall We Live?*

If you want just a little gift for a thank you to a colleague or friend, what about an Abbey's mug (\$3), or even one of our stylish new carry bags (only \$1), or of course a Gift Voucher for any amount you choose.

Finally I must say thank you again to our very many loyal customers. Without you and your esoteric tastes, Abbey's could not maintain the enormous range of new and backlist titles that we are able to offer you. I hope you are spending up big for Christmas... and building up your Reward Dollars to have fun with in January! Best wishes. Keep well.

Eve

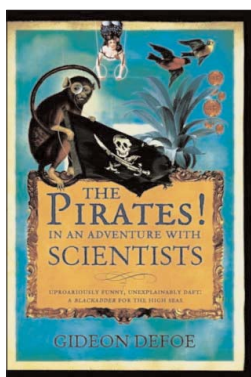
Abbey's Bestsellers - November 2004

Non-Fiction

- Kokoda Commander: The Life of Major General 'Tubby' Allen** by Stuart Braga (Hb \$59.95)
- The Briefest English Grammar Ever Produced** by Ruth Colman (Ring Binder \$12.00)
- Watson's Dictionary of Weasel Words** by Don Watson (Hb \$32.95)
- How to Kill a Country** by Linda Weiss et al (Pb \$24.95)
- The Road to Reality** by Roger Penrose (Hb \$89.95)
- Rubicon** by Tom Holland (Pb \$26.95)
- How Mumbo Jumbo Conquered the World** by Francis Wheen (Pb \$24.95)
- Knights Templar: A New History** by Helen Nicholson (Pb \$39.95)
- The Cambridge Guide to English Usage** by Pam Peters (Hb \$75.00)
- X-Treme Latin** by Henry Beard (Hb \$38.00)

Fiction

- The Line of Beauty** by Alan Hollinghurst (Pb \$28.00)
- The Da Vinci Code** by Dan Brown (Pb \$19.95)
- The Last Kingdom** by Bernard Cornwell (Tp \$29.95)
- Caligula** by Allan Massie (Pb \$22.95)
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- When I Talk to You** by Michael Leunig (Hb \$26.95)
- Magic Seeds** by V S Naipaul (Pb \$30.00)
- Author, Author** by David Lodge (Tp \$32.95)
- The Annotated Brothers' Grimm** ed by Maria Tatar (Hb \$49.95)
- Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell** by Suzanne Clarke (Pb \$35.00)



The Pirates!

In an Adventure with Scientists

Gideon DEFOE 135pp Hb \$19.95
Stop Press! This is the funniest and most agreeable book that I have read this year, or perhaps at any time. A tongue-in-cheek tale of swashbuckling pirates who bump worlds with Charles Darwin, the hapless Robert FitzRoy and a diabolical bishop. This is one to read whilst eating your best Christmas ham, (you'll understand when you read it) and perhaps a draught of rum (mixed with gunpowder as per the Pirate Captain). Get one for yourself and perhaps another half dozen for presents.

Ann

Now in Paperback

A Writer's World: Travels 1950-2000 by Jan Morris \$28.00

In a hugely evocative collection of her travel writing and reportage from five decades, Jan Morris has produced a unique portrait of the late 20th century world.

The Faber Book of Exploration by Benedict Allen \$28.00

Allen's anthology of human exploration presents the words of those who have set off into 'the unknown' and returned to tell the tale.

The Hamilton Case by Michelle De Kretser \$22.95

An assured, breathtakingly good novel, set in pre-war Ceylon, by the author of **The Rose Grower** (Pb \$22.95), that confirms her as a writer of real talent and originality.

Vernon God Little by D B C Pierre \$22.95

15-year-old Vernon Gregory Little is in trouble, and it has something to do with the recent massacre of 16 students at his high school. Soon, the quirky backwater of Martirio, barbecue capital of Texas, is flooded with wannabe CNN hacks, eager for a scapegoat.

The Miraculous Fever-Tree: Malaria, Medicine and the Cure That Changed the World

by Flammetta Roccio \$24.95. A rich and wonderful history of quinine - the cure for malaria.

The Coming of the Third Reich by Richard Evans \$26.95

Evans' brilliant book unfolds perhaps the single most important story of the 20th century: how a stable and modern country in less than a single lifetime led Europe into moral, physical and cultural ruin and despair.

The Amateur Marriage by Anne Tyler \$22.95

From the incomparable Anne Tyler, a rich and compelling novel, spanning three generations, about a mismatched marriage and its consequences.

Pompeii by Robert Harris \$19.95

As Rome's richest citizens relax in their villas around Pompeii and Herculaneum, there are ominous warnings that something is going wrong. Wells and springs are failing, a man has disappeared, and now the greatest aqueduct in the world - the mighty Aqua Augusta - has suddenly ceased to flow...

The Bounty: The True Story of the Mutiny on the Bounty by Caroline Alexander \$24.95

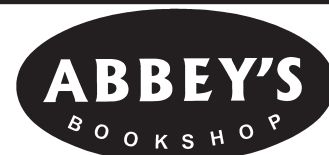
The bestselling author of **The Endurance** (Tp \$35) reveals the startling truth behind the legend of the Mutiny on the Bounty - the most famous sea story of all time.

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey, David Hall, Kathryn Hanna, Christian Hummelshoj, Lindy Jones, Shelley Kay, Ann Leahy, Chris Scott, Diana Sero, Bruce Turner & Cara Willetts

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