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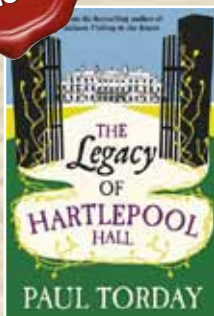
Abbey's Advocate

Issue 263 January 2012



## Abbey's Choice

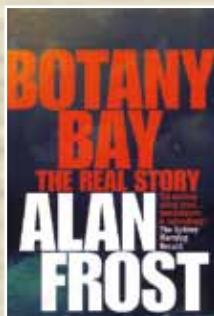
Our pick of the new releases at Abbey's special prices



\$32.99 \$27.95  
page 4



\$49.95 \$39.95  
page 6



\$24.95 \$19.95  
page 7



\$29.99 \$24.95



\$32.99 \$27.95



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Please turn newsletter over to see Crime Chronicle



**Thank you** to all who came along to our annual **Zonta Meet the Authors Evening** on Wednesday 30 November – our 28th Zonta night! It was a lively room, abuzz with readers chatting with the many authors who joined us in a very relaxed setting. Most importantly, we raised over \$900 for the projects that Zonta undertakes, assisting women in need. **Craig [ed]**

Photo used in masthead: Brendan Murphy Procession  
brenmurphy.wordpress.com

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**Congratulations** to all the winners of *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* movie passes. Stay alert (but not alarmed) for more!

### Notes from Eve Abbey...

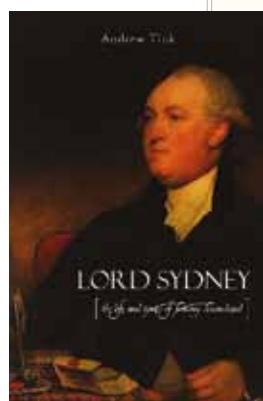
"Tommy came from a famous British political family and was described as "a John Bull figure, full of bumptious self-confidence."  
[ read on, page 10 ]

### VINTAGE CLASSICS I Capture the Castle Dodie Smith

Cassandra Mortmain lives in a beautiful but dilapidated castle and is determined to capture scenes of her everyday life in a journal. She has plenty of material to work with! Her father, who wrote a critically acclaimed novel some years before, is suffering from writer's block, and from a wilful blindness that ignores the poverty his family endures. His second wife, Topaz, a beautiful, fey, ex-artist's model, likes to commune with nature wearing nothing but boots. Cassandra's older sister, Rose, is a scheming romantic; and Thomas, their intelligent younger brother, lives in his own world. When wealthy Americans become their landlords, Rose (who has always wanted to live in a Jane Austen novel), decides she will marry Simon, the heir, despite not loving him. Cassandra chronicles all this in an endearingly clear-eyed style, recording amusing episodes and more serious matters, including her own inconvenient love for Simon... This is a beautifully polished, seemingly effortless, novel, one which I have revisited with a great deal of pleasure many times over the years and which still retains its charms. **Lindy**



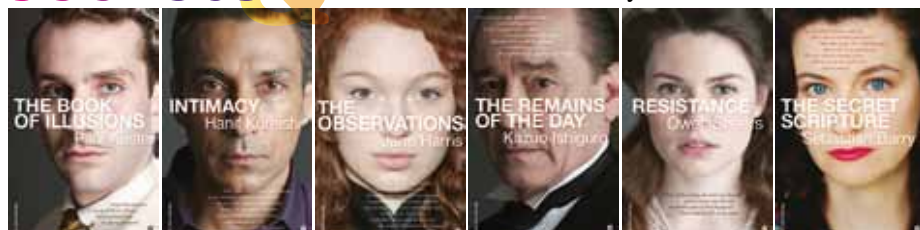
NOW ONLY \$12.95



### Lord Sydney *The Life and Times of Tommy Townshend* Andrew Tink

Following his first award-winning biography – **William Charles Wentworth: Australia's Greatest Native Son** (360pp Hb \$49.99) – Tink's new book is about English politician Thomas Townshend - known as Tommy before becoming Baron and later Viscount (Lord) Sydney, from whence we get Sydney Cove and the name of our sparkling city. As Home Secretary in William Pitt's government, Sydney was the first to announce King George III's decision to send out the First Fleet in August 1786. Sydney's influence as Home Secretary was considerable and his close relationship with Governor Phillip, whom he selected to command the fleet and to be governor, influenced the establishment of a penal colony based upon rational and humane principles. Pb \$39.95

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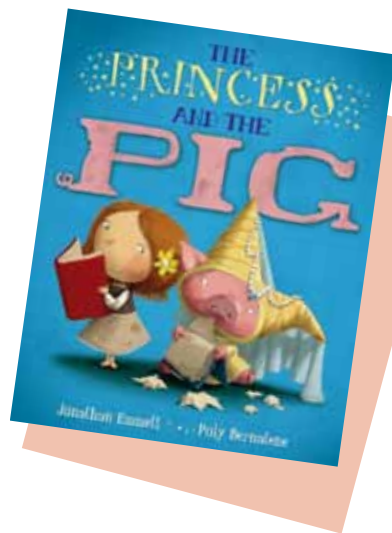
## The Tunnels of Tarcoola Jennifer Walsh

No fairies! No wizards! No paranormals! Just a good clean adventure, à la Enid Blyton or Arthur Ransome, set in inner suburban Sydney. Kitty, David, Andrea and Martin are mucking around one day and discover an old tunnel, which in turn has an exit at the local derelict house. They explore the tunnels underneath their suburb and discover a stash of documents; but at the same time, sinister thugs start to shadow them. And what is the connection of the old woman in the nursing home to all of this? Excellent for ages 9-12. Pb \$14.99



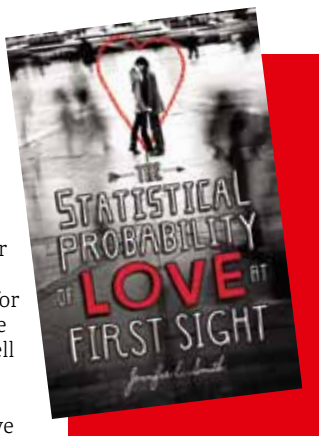
## The Princess and the Pig Jonathan Emmett

A poor farmer's piglet and a rich queen's baby girl are swapped one day. The king knew what had happened, because (as he points to a copy of *Sleeping Beauty*) it happens all the time in books where bad fairies intervene. The farmer's wife (pointing to *Thumbelina*) knows she got a daughter because good fairies do that sort of thing all the time in books. A brightly illustrated tale of great charm and cleverness, perfect for the pre-schooler who knows their bedtime stories. Hb \$26.99



## The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight Jennifer E Smith

Hadley just misses the flight that is supposed to take her to London to attend her father's second wedding. She is resentful of him breaking up her family, of her mother for making her go, and just of life, generally. Waiting for the next plane out, she meets Oliver, who she resents as well - at first. Finding herself thrown into his company and assuming he is heading to see his family reluctantly as well, they connect. Everything goes well until they arrive in London... This is one of those sweet books perfect for whiling away a few hours on a hot summer's day, and while the target audience is older teenaged girls, it fits that crossover segment nicely! Pb \$22.99



## Grandpa Green Lane Smith

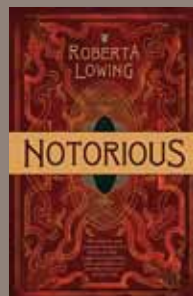
Grandpa Green was born a long time ago, before TV or computers, growing up on a farm, going to fight in a war instead of studying, marrying and having kids. His great-grandson tells the story, simply, while playing in Grandpa's garden, which itself tells the story as well, through topiary. Grandpa is forgetting things, but the garden remembers for him. A charming and gentle picturebook about the bonds of family, beautifully illustrated - in green, of course! Ages 4-6. Hb \$19.99



## AUSTRALIAN FICTION

### A Common Loss Kirsten Tranter

They were five: Elliot, Brian, Tallis, Cameron and Dylan... charismatic Dylan, who each one turned to in times of crisis. Five close friends, bonded in college, still coming together for their annual trip to Las Vegas. But this year they are four friends, sharing Dylan's tragic death. A common loss that, upon their arrival in Vegas, will bring with it a common threat... one that will make them question who their departed friend really was, and whether he is even worthy of their grief. 368pp Tp \$32.99

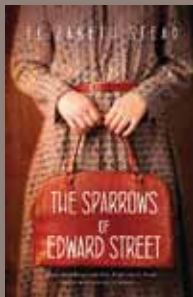


### Notorious Roberta Lowing

She came walking out of the desert, just like the poet. Now she lies horribly scarred and near death in an asylum deep in the North African desert. An Australian official, John Devlin, has come to question her. She and Devlin share a secret past, but the greatest secret is the one she will die to protect. And as the wind calls up a sandstorm, the inhabitants of the asylum discover they are linked by a diary written by the poet Rimbaud, who in 1890 also confronted the power of the desert... 504pp Pb \$23.99

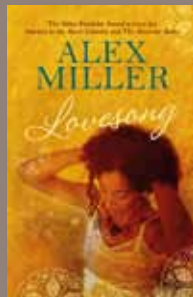
### The Sparrows of Edward Street Elizabeth Stead

It's 1948 and Hanora Sparrow and her teenage daughters, Aria and Rosy, have fallen on tough times. With little more than the suitcases they carry and a few pounds between them, they move to a housing commission camp on the outskirts of Sydney. Stead uses her clear eye and sharp wit to recreate a little-known corner of Australian post-war history. 300pp Pb \$24.95



### Lovesong Alex Miller

Chez Dom is a small Tunisian cafe in Paris, run by the widow Houria and her young niece, Sabiha. One day, a lost Australian tourist named John Patterner seeks shelter in the cafe from a sudden Parisian rainstorm. From here, a tragic love story unfolds. Years later, while living a quiet life in suburban Melbourne, John finds himself haunted by what happened to him and Sabiha at Vaugirard... 372pp Pb \$23.99



### The Girl in Steel-Capped Boots Loretta Hill

Lena Todd is a city girl who thrives on cocktails and cappuccinos. So when her boss announces he's sending her to the outback to join a construction team, her world is turned upside down. Her new accommodation will be an aluminium box called a dongar. Her new social network: 350 men. Her daily foot attire: steel-capped boots. Lena can't refuse and needs to right past wrongs and prove herself. 352pp Tp \$32.95



## FICTION

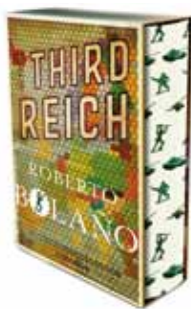
### The First Wife Emily Barr

Lily, a young woman left alone in the world after the death of her grandparents, finds purpose when she befriends the grieving widower Harry Summers, whose wife Sarah committed suicide. The pair fall in love, but Lily's life takes a darker turn when she realises there is more to Sarah's death than meets the eye. Anxious to find the truth before she marries Harry, she sets off to Barcelona in search of answers. What she discovers is more shocking than she ever imagined... 416pp Pb \$22.99



### Third Reich Roberto Bolano

Shortly after becoming the German war-games champion, Udo and his girlfriend take a holiday on the Costa Brava, where they meet another German couple, Charly and Hanna. When Charly disappears without a trace, Udo's well-ordered life is thrown into upheaval and his dreams push him into delirium. Refusing to leave the resort, he attempts to reassert himself by engaging in his favourite war game, 'Third Reich'. But he soon realises the game is more serious than he ever imagined. 288pp Hb \$44.99



### The Berlin Crossing Kevin Brophy

Brandenburg, 1993. The Berlin Wall is down, the country is reunified and 30-year-old school teacher Michael Ritter's life is falling apart. His wife has thrown him out and his new West German headmaster has fired him for being a socialist. Disenfranchised, he heads home to care for his terminally ill mother. But before she dies, she urges him to seek out an evangelical priest, Pastor Bruck, who is the only one who knows the truth about his father... 368pp Tp \$29.99



### Look at Me Jennifer Egan

Reconstructive facial surgery after a car crash alters Manhattan model Charlotte so as to be unrecognisable. Seeking a new image, she engages in an internet experiment that may both save and damn her. As her story eerily

converges with that of a plain, unhappy teenager also named Charlotte, it raises tantalising questions about identity and reality in contemporary Western culture. 416pp Pb \$19.99

### Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close [Film Tie-In]

#### Jonathan Safran Foer

Several years after his father died in 9/11, nine-year-old Oskar discovers a key. But which of New York's 162 million locks does it open? So begins a quest that takes Oskar - inventor, letter-writer and amateur detective - across New York's five boroughs and into the jumbled lives of friends, relatives and complete strangers. But will it take him any closer to, or even further from, his lost father? 368pp Pb \$19.95



### Jubilee Shelley Harris

During the Queen's Silver Jubilee of 1977, a photographer captures an iconic moment: a street party with Union Jacks fluttering in the breeze. Right in the centre of the frame, a small Asian boy stares intently into the camera. In the present day, the boy, Satish, has become a successful and respected cardiologist. But he is living with a secret. When he is asked to partake in a Jubilee reunion, he must confront the life-changing truth of that day... 336pp Tp \$29.99



### The Descendants [Film Tie-In]

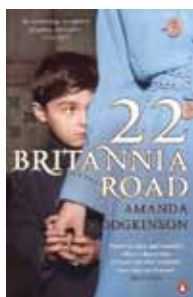
#### Kaui Hart Hemmings

A descendant of one of Hawaii's largest landowners, Matt King finds his luck changed when his fun-loving, flighty wife Joanie falls into a coma. Matt is left in charge of his two daughters - teenage ex-model and recovering drug addict Alex, and Scottie, a feisty ten-year-old. When Matt discovers Joanie had been having an affair, he decides to seek out her lover so that he too has a chance to say his goodbyes. 304pp Pb \$19.95



### 22 Britannia Road Amanda Hodgkinson

Poland, 1946. Silvana and eight-year-old Aurek board a ship that will take them to England. Carrying a terrible secret, Silvana has not seen her husband Janusz in six years, but she is assured that he has made them a home in Ipswich. Meanwhile Janusz, a Polish soldier, hopes his family will help put his own dark past behind him. But the years apart will haunt each of them - unless they together confront what they were compelled to do to survive... 320pp Pb \$19.95



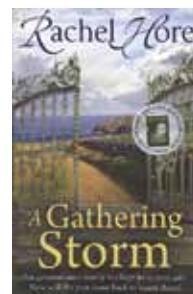
### Saving CeeCee Honeycutt Beth Hoffman

When her mother dies, 12-year-old daughter CeeCee has barely a hope left in the world. To her rescue arrives Great Aunt Tootie in the most magnificent car CeeCee has ever seen, and she is whisked away to the storybook city of Savannah. But when a darker side to the Southern dream threatens her newfound happiness, Aunt Tootie and her friends rally to CeeCee's aid. 320pp Tp \$29.99



### A Gathering Storm Rachel Hore

After losing her father, Lucy Cardwell visits his childhood home. There she encounters the elderly Beatrice, who has an extraordinary story to tell. Growing up in the 1930s, Beatrice was childhood friends with Angelina Wincanton, Lucy's grandmother. But the dark clouds of war were to gather and Beatrice and the Wincantons were to find themselves swept up in the cataclysm of events that followed, from Cornwall to Occupied France. 480pp Pb \$19.99



### How it All Began Penelope Lively

When Charlotte is mugged and breaks her hip, her daughter Rose cannot accompany her employer Lord Peters to Manchester, which means his niece Marion has to go instead, which means she sends a text to her lover, which is intercepted by his wife, which is just the beginning in the ensuing chain of life-altering events. In this brilliantly told novel, we see how one random event can cause entire lives to be irrevocably changed. 256pp Hb \$35



### Stone Arabia Dana Spiotta

Denise and Nik grew up in the 1970s LA music scene. Nik was a star on the rise. Denise, his sister, was his biggest fan. Now, fleeting success long behind him, Nik makes his art in isolation, painstakingly documenting his own work. Denise is his most devoted audience - sometimes his only audience. Then her daughter, Ada, decides to make a film revealing Nik's underground career... 256pp Tp \$29.95



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## Maine

### Courtney Sullivan

One summer, three generations of Kelleher women descend on the shore of their beachfront holiday house. Kathleen, finally sober, hoped never to set foot there again. Maggie, pregnant, has left her boyfriend. Ann-Marie, bound to the family by marriage, fantasises about an extra-marital affair. In the middle of all this is the alcoholic matriarch Alice. As changeable as the sea in front of their house, the Kelleher family is by turns fierce and loving, cruel and unforgiving. 400pp Tp \$29.99



## 13 Flowers of Nanjing

### Geling Yan

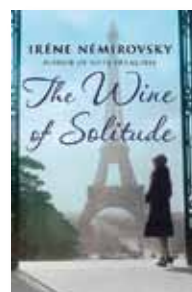
The Japanese have taken Nanking. A group of terrified schoolgirls hide in the compound of an American church. Among them is 13-year-old Shujuan. Run by Father Engelmann, an American priest who has been in China for many years, the church is supposedly neutral ground in the war between China and Japan. But it becomes clear the Japanese are not obeying international rules of engagement. Short, powerful and vivid, this novel transports the reader to 1930s China. 256pp Hb \$27.95



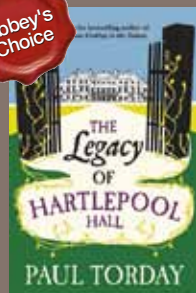
## The Wine of Solitude

### Irene Nemirovsky

Now available in English for the first time, this novel explores the troubled relationship between a young girl and her self-absorbed mother. We follow the family through the Great War and the Russian Revolution, as young Hlne grows from an unhappy child into an angry young woman. Through hot summers in Kiev and the cruel winters of St Petersburg, Hlne blossoms into a clear-eyed observer of the life around her - and prepared to wreak vengeance on her mother. 256pp Tp \$29.95



Abbey's  
Choice



## The Legacy of Hartlepool Hall

### Paul Torday

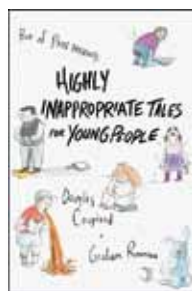
With the settlement of his inheritance looming, Ed Hartlepool must return to his ancestral seat, Hartlepool Hall, where he discovers that his father has left him huge debts and a vast country estate that is

creaking at the seams. A strange woman in residence - Lady Alice - has made herself at home. It seems that Ed's only recourse is to sell the estate. But can he avoid such a drastic move? And is Lady Alice really who she claims to be? 288pp Tp \$32.99 **\$27.95**

## Highly Inappropriate Tales for Young People

### Douglas Coupland

Seven funny stories featuring seven evil characters you can't help but love! The stories are illustrated with dark charm by Graham Roumieu in a collaboration that brings two of Canada's wittiest creators together for the first time. A cast of unlovable miscreants unleash their dark, unruly and antisocial desires on every page. You're sure to laugh - the evil, twisted kind of laughter! 144pp Tp \$32.95



## HISTORICAL FICTION



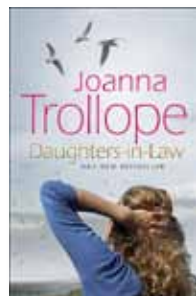
## King's Man

### Outlaw Chronicles #3

### Angus Donald

Richard the Lionheart is bound for England. But with all the princes of Europe united against him, can the greatest warrior in Christendom make it safely home? Captured, bound and

imprisoned, King Richard's slim hope of salvation rests on one man - a former outlaw, a vengeful earl, a man who scoffs at Holy Mother Church: Robin Hood. For King and country, Robin and his loyal lieutenant Alan Dale will risk all to see the Lionheart restored to his rightful throne. 448pp Tp \$29.99



## Daughters-in-Law

### Joanna Trollope

Rachel has fiercely devoted herself to her three sons, even in adulthood. But when her youngest son Luke gets married, she finds that control is slipping away. Other people are becoming more important to her

children than her, and she can no longer rely on her role as undisputed matriarch. A power struggle develops which can only end in unhappiness; her three daughters-in-law want to do things their own way, and to her grief, so do her sons... 432pp Pb \$19.95

## Landfall

### Helen Gordon

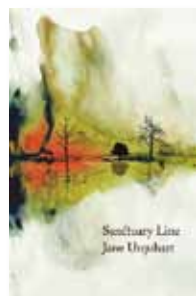
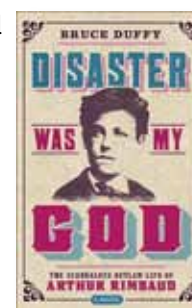
Doubting her job at a fashionable London art magazine, Alice Robinson agrees to house-sit for her parents, where she moves back to the suburban streets of her childhood and finds herself confronting the truths of her chosen life. Exploring the landscape of the South East and the nature of life on an island, this clear-eyed, mordantly witty, warm novel culminates in one of the most surprising endings you'll ever read. 224pp Tp \$29.95



## Disaster was My God

### Bruce Duffy

In 1871, Arthur Rimbaud transformed himself from a teenage bumpkin into the literary sensation of Paris with a handful of startling poems. He was taken in, then taken up, by the older, married poet Paul Verlaine in a passionate affair. When Rimbaud sought to end it, Verlaine, in a jealous rage, shot him. This is a skilfully imagined novel based on the scandalous and astonishing life of the pioneering, proto-punk Arthur Rimbaud. 356pp Tp \$29.99



## Sanctuary Line

### Jane Urquhart

Entomologist Liz Crane has returned to her family's deserted farmhouse. Casting a shadow over her life is the recent death of her cousin and the disappearance many years earlier of her uncle. Liz explores the many-

layered history of her eccentric family and re-evaluates the lives of the workers imported each summer from Mexico to harvest the fruit on the farm. Surrounded by memories, she is haunted by a buried family secret, by unexpected love affairs, and by tragedy. 256pp Tp \$27.99

## The White Pearl

### Kate Furnivall

Malaya, 1941. The glamorous wife of a plantation owner, Connie Hadley, is hiding secrets that could destroy her marriage. Life is changed forever when Pearl Harbour is attacked. Connie decides to flee to Singapore on the family's boat, *The White Pearl*. She sails with her husband and son, three friends and the enigmatic boat dealer Fitzpayne. Desperate, short of food and constantly in danger, fear strips away good manners, causing deadly divisions between friends. 480pp Tp \$29.99



## Shakespeare's Mistress

### Karen Harper

England, 1601. When Queen Elizabeth's men come looking for William Shakespeare - a rumoured Catholic in a time of Catholic-Protestant intrigue - they first question a beautiful woman who seems to know the famous playwright well. She is Anne

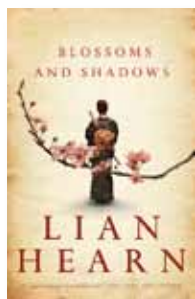
Wateley, wed to William just days before he married another woman, Anne Hathaway. Anne Wateley tells her story, which stretches almost 50 years - from the villages of Warwickshire to the bustling city of London. 448pp Pb \$19.95



## Blossoms and Shadows

**Lian Hearn**

This is the story of the birth of modern Japan, told by Tsuru, a young woman who breaks every stereotype of the Japanese lady. We meet her on the day of her sister's wedding and soon realise she will not accept the same domestic role that her sister is about to take on. Instead, she is ready to embrace the new world, defend her beliefs, look for love and follow her career as a doctor working alongside her husband on the battlefields. 480pp Pb \$22.99



## The Harlot's Press

**Helen Pike**

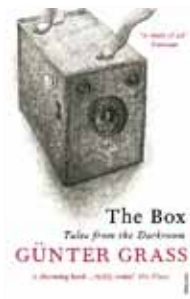
London, 1820. Printeress Nell Wingfield is turning tricks to survive at one of the Houses of the Quality on St James's. When one of her clients - a leading figure in the establishment - is found dead in her bed, Nell knows that his enemies will try to exploit this for their own ends. Back home on Cheapside, caught between the radical politics of her family and the powerful forces behind the royalist causes, he is faced with a stark choice as she fights to stay alive... 352pp Pb \$19.99



## The Box

*Tales from the Darkroom*  
**Gunter Grass**

Gunter Grass writes in the voices of his eight children as they record memories of their childhoods and of their father who was always at work on a new book, always at the margins of their lives. Grass found inspiration from his assistant Marie, whose snapshots taken with an old-fashioned Agfa box camera provide the author with ideas for his work. But her images offer much more. The children speculate on the nature of this magic: did it represent the power of art itself? 224pp Pb \$19.95



## Becoming Jane Eyre

**Sheila Kohler**

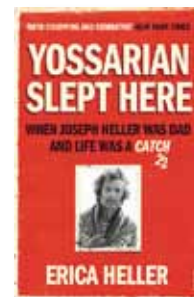
Yorkshire, 1846. A family seems cursed with disaster. A mother and two children dead. A father sick, without fortune, and hardened by the loss of his two most beloved family members. A son destroyed by alcohol and opiates. And three strong, intelligent young women, reduced to poverty and spinsterhood, with nothing to save them from their fate. Nothing, that is, except their remarkable literary talent. So unfolds the story of the Bronte sisters! 256pp Pb \$19.99



## The Midwife of Venice

**Roberta Rich**

Hannah Levi, a midwife in the Jewish ghetto, is known for her skills throughout Venice. When the Conte di Padovani appears at her door imploring her to attend his wife, Hannah's compassion is tested. Not only is it illegal for Jews to render medical treatment to Christians, it's also punishable by death. But the Count offers a handsome reward. Aided by illegal forceps that she invented to assist with difficult births, can Hannah save mother and child? 352pp Tp \$32.95



## Yossarian Slept Here

*When Joseph Heller was Dad and Life was a Catch-22*

**Erica Heller**

Like his most famous work, Joseph Heller was a study in contradictions: eccentric, brilliant and voracious, but also mercurial, competitive and stubborn - with a love of mischief that sometimes cut too close to the bone. This biography is a daughter's darkly funny, poignant memoir about growing up - her colourful family members, her parents' tumultuous marriage, her father's celebrity friends and the family's eccentric neighbours. 288pp Pb \$24.95

## Hawk Quest

**Robert Lyndon**

Set in the aftermath of the Norman Conquest, a rogue French knight named Vallon must travel through Europe in search of four rare gyrfalcons demanded as ransom for a Norman knight held captive by Seljuk Turks. Accompanied by an English falconer and a Sicilian scholar, Vallon's quest takes him from Iceland to Byzantium - where he braves raging seas, icy arctic wastes, treacherous rapids and furious battles against Normans, Vikings... and a traitor in his own company. 672pp Tp \$29.99



## Armada

**John Stack**

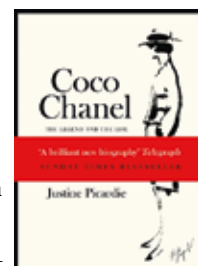
After decades of religious strife, Elizabeth sits on the throne of England. Catholic revolts have been quashed and Elizabeth has ordered the execution of her cousin, Mary, Queen of Scots. Thomas Varian is a captain in Drake's formidable navy, rising quickly through the ranks. But he guards a dangerous secret: he is a Catholic. And his conflicting loyalty to his religion, his Queen and his country will be tested under formidable circumstances: facing the mighty Spanish Armada! 400pp Tp \$29.99



## Coco Chanel

*The Legend and the Life*  
**Justine Picardie**

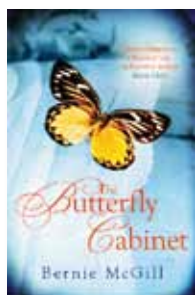
This is the definitive biography of a heroine who founded the most successful fashion label in history; a woman whose life was veiled in enigma and scandal; whose talent and innovation endures beyond her own pioneering creations. Following clues to Coco's early years in a convent and passionate love affairs with playboys, artists and aristocrats, Justine Picardie deftly weaves together the threads of Chanel's life and explains how she became one of the most influential women in history. 352pp Pb \$27.99



## The Butterfly Cabinet

**Bernie McGill**

When Anna visits Maddie, her childhood nanny, the elderly woman sees her chance to unburden herself of a 60-year-old secret: the day four-year-old Charlotte died at the big house where she worked. As Maddie drifts back through the years, she reveals the story of Charlotte's mother - the proud, uncompromising Harriet Ormond. When the community is quick to judge her, Harriet does not stoop to defend herself. But her journals reveal a complex truth... 384pp Pb \$19.99

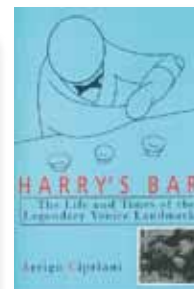


## Ben Jonson

*A Life*

**Ian Donaldson**

Ben Jonson was the greatest of Shakespeare's contemporaries, whose fame rested not only on the numerous plays he had written for the theatre, but on his achievements over three decades as principal masque-writer to the early Stuart court, where he worked in an often stormy collaboration with Inigo Jones. This biography draws on freshly discovered writings by Jonson, and locates his work within the social and intellectual contexts of his time. 560pp Hb \$48.95



## Harry's Bar

*The Life and Times of the Legendary Venice Landmark*  
**Arrigo Cipriani**

Harry's Bar in Venice has remained one of the world's most renowned watering holes for more than 60 years. Ernest Hemingway, Orson Welles, Sinclair Lewis and other luminaries have tasted its famous cocktails and enjoyed the bar's original inventions, such as the carpaccio appetiser and the now-ubiquitous bellini. Filled with engaging wit and lighthearted charm, Arrigo Cipriani's history of Harry's Bar is the next best thing to a table at Harry's itself! 188pp Tp \$32.95

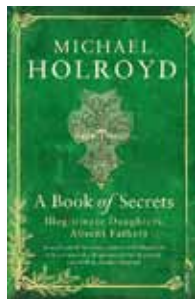


## A Book of Secrets

*Illegitimate Daughters, Absent Fathers*

**Michael Holroyd**

Holroyd peers into dusty corners to bring unknown women into the light: Alice Keppel was the mistress of both the second Lord Grimthorpe and the Prince of Wales; Eve Fairfax was Lord Grimthorpe's abandoned fiancée and sometime muse of Auguste Rodin; and the novelist Violet Trefusis was the lover of Vita Sackville-West. Taking the reader on a journey of discovery, this book lucidly gives voice to fragile human connections. 272pp Pb \$19.95



## Franklin and Eleanor

**Hazel Rowley**

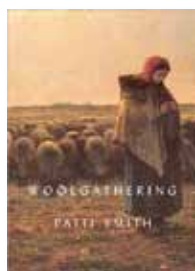
Franklin Delano and Eleanor Roosevelt's marriage is one of the most celebrated and scrutinised partnerships in presidential history. From FDR's lifelong romance with Lucy Mercer, to Eleanor's purported lesbianism, the public has never tired of speculating upon these two headstrong individuals. Some claim that Eleanor sacrificed personal happiness to accommodate FDR's needs; others claim that the marriage was a gracious facade. No one has told the full story until now. 368pp Pb \$24.99



## Woolgathering

**Patti Smith**

A great book about becoming an artist, and of a young Patti Smith finding herself as she learns the noble vocation of woolgathering. She discovers - often at night and often in nature - the pleasures of rescuing a fleeting thought. Deeply moving, Smith introduces us to her tribe, a race of cloud dwellers, and to the fierce, vital pleasures of cloud watching and stargazing and wandering. A radiant new autobiographical piece, this also includes the author's photographs and illustrations. 80pp Hb \$22.95



## Hergé

*The Man Who Created Tintin*  
**Pierre Assouline**

Despite Tintin's enduring international popularity, Americans know almost nothing about his gifted creator, Georges Remi - better known as Hergé. This is the first full

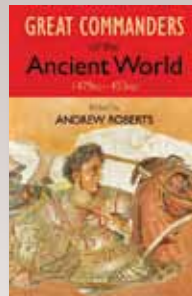
biography of him available for an English-speaking audience, offering a captivating portrait of a man who revolutionised the art of comics. Granted unprecedented access to the cartoonist's unpublished letters, Assouline gets behind the genial public mask into his life and art. Pb \$18.95

## HISTORY

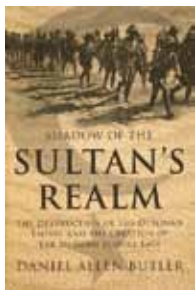
### Great Commanders of the Ancient World 1479BC-453AD

**Andrew Roberts [ed]**

Which was the most brilliant of Hannibal's three crushing defeats of Roman armies? What tactics did Julius Caesar employ to defeat Pompey at Pharsalus? How was Alexander the Great able to command sufficient loyalty from his troops to lead them across half of the Asian land mass in search of new territories to conquer? A sumptuous chronological survey of the 50 greatest commanders of the ancient world. 432pp Pb \$19.99



Also Available: *Great Commanders of the Medieval World 454-1582AD*, *Great Commanders of the Early Modern World 1567-1865* and *Great Commanders of the Modern World 1866-1975* (Pb \$19.99 each).



### Shadow of the Sultan's Realm

*The Destruction of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East*

**Daniel Allen Butler**

The Ottoman Empire spanned more than seven centuries and stretched over three

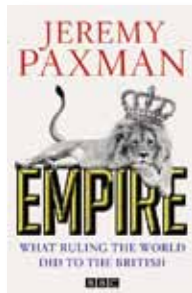
continents, producing marvels of architecture, literature, science and warfare. Its collapse redrew the map of the world and changed the course of history - a dissolution that climaxed in WWI. A fascinating narrative of an empire whose legacy is the cauldron of the modern Middle East. 252pp Hb \$44.95



### Ancient Roman Gardens

**Linda Farrar**

A fascinating new dimension to the history of Roman society and of gardening and horticulture, tracing the development of Roman gardens from their humble origins as vegetable patches to the sophisticated landscapes of the rich and famous at the height of the Empire. 256pp Tp \$39.95



### Empire

*What Ruling the World did to the British*  
**Jeremy Paxman**

The British empire is long gone. Conventional wisdom has decreed it was A Bad Thing and that there's no more to be said. Darkest night has fallen over the empire on which the sun never set. Or so some like to think. Paxman examines this belief and finds it wanting. The influence of empire is everywhere and Paxman brilliantly brings to life the tragedy and comedy of Empire and reveals its profound and lasting effects. Pb \$29.95

## A Brief History of Roman Britain

*Conquest and Civilization*  
**J P Alcock**

In BC 55, Julius Caesar came, saw, conquered and then left. It was not until AD 43 that the Emperor Claudius crossed the channel and made Britain the western outpost of the Roman Empire, which spanned from the Scottish border to Persia. For the next 400 years, the island was transformed. This book is interwoven with an historical narrative and serves as a social history of the period showing how Roman society grew in Britain. 320pp Pb \$14.99

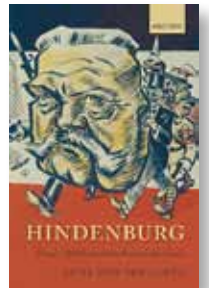


## Hindenburg

*Power, Myth and the Rise of the Nazis*

**Anna von der Goltz**

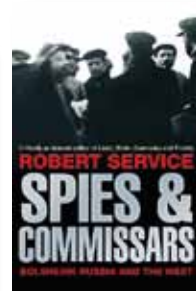
In a period characterised by rupture and fragmentation, Paul von Hindenburg brought together a broad coalition of Germans and became one of the most potent forces in Weimar politics. From Hindenburg's decisive victory at the Battle of Tannenberg in 1914 to his death in Nazi Germany and beyond, Anna von der Goltz explains why the presence of Hindenburg's name on the ballot mesmerised an overwhelming number of voters in the presidential elections of 1925. 344pp Pb \$37.95



### Catherine the Great

*Portrait of a Woman*  
**Robert K Massie**

The extraordinary story of an obscure young German princess who travelled to Russia at 14 to become one of the most remarkable women in history. Born into a minor noble family, Catherine transformed herself into the Empress of Russia by sheer determination. Possessing a brilliant mind and an insatiable curiosity, she dealt with domestic rebellion, foreign wars and the tidal wave of European political change churned by the French Revolution. 656pp Hb \$49.95 **\$39.95**

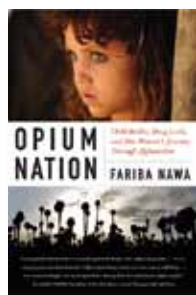


### Spies and Commissars

*Russia and the West in the Russian Revolution*  
**Robert Service**

In the aftermath of the Revolution, the Western powers were anxious to prevent the spread of Bolshevism across Europe, while Lenin and Trotsky were equally anxious to do just that. But neither side knew anything about the other. Into this void stepped an extraordinary collection of opportunists, journalists and spies who brokered deals between Russia and the West. Robert Service turns his meticulous eye to this ragtag group of people, revealing a great untold story of the 20th century. 424pp Tp \$34.99





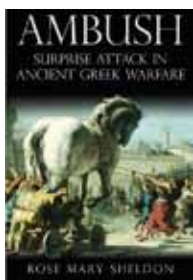
**Opium Nation**  
*Child Brides, Drug Lords and One Woman's Journey Through Afghanistan*  
**Fariba Nawa**

A searing account of the opium business, worth billions of dollars worldwide. Nawa travels from Kandahar and Helmand to Herat and Kabul gathering remarkable stories of people, while also returning to her family's ancestral home and reflecting on the bitter changes after decades of war. She encounters poppy farmers, abandoned women and children, drug lords, smugglers, addicts and sundry characters provide an insightful picture of a volatile who country. 352pp Pb \$27.99

**Ambush**

*Surprise Attack in Ancient Greek Warfare*  
**Rose Mary Sheldon**

There are two images of warfare that dominate Greek history. The better known is that of Achilles, the Homeric hero skilled in face-to-face combat to the death. The alternative model is Odysseus, for whom stealth and deceit were acceptable. Yet Greek warfare also involved the use of spies, intelligence gathering, ambush and surprise attacks at night. This book dispels modern and ancient conceptions of warfare, providing a fresh look at ancient Greek war strategy. 322pp Hb \$60



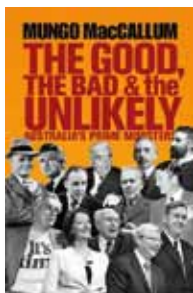
**Mugabe and the White African**  
**Ben Freeth**

Like that of many white farmers, Ben Freeth's family land was 'reclaimed' by Mugabe's government for redistribution. But Ben's family appealed to international law, instigating a suit against

Mugabe's government via the The Southern African Development Community. After many hurdles, the case was successful. But the story doesn't end there. The fight for justice in Zimbabwe isn't over, and this book is for anyone who wants to understand how human dignity flourishes in adverse circumstances. 256pp Pb \$17.95

**The Good, the Bad and the Unlikely**  
*Australia's Prime Ministers*  
**Mungo MacCallum**

Since the nation's birth in 1901, 27 politicians have sat in Australia's driving seat. Their time at the top has ranged from eight days for Frank Forde to 18 years for Bob Menzies. Whatever the length of their term, each prime minister has a story worth sharing. With characteristic wit and expert political knowledge, Mungo MacCallum brings the nation's leaders to life and tells the fascinating stories of the men and one woman – who have had a crack at running the country. 240pp Tp \$29.95



**The Shadow World**  
*Inside the Global Arms Trade*  
**Andrew Feinstein**

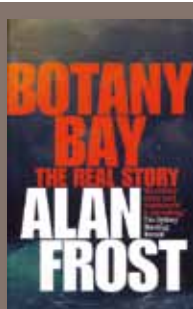
Feinstein exposes the corruption and cover-ups behind weapons deals - ranging from trade between the British and Saudi governments, to BAE's controversial transactions in South Africa, Tanzania and eastern Europe, as well as the revolving-door relationships which characterise the US. He reveals in forensic detail the formal government-to-government arms trade, as well as the shadow world of illicit weapons dealing, exploring the danger which this network presents to all of us. 704pp Hb \$39.95



**Botany Bay**  
*The Real Story*  
**Alan Frost**

Established as a dumping ground for Britain's criminals, Australia owes its existence to overcrowded jails in Britain. But Alan Frost goes beyond this cliché, examining

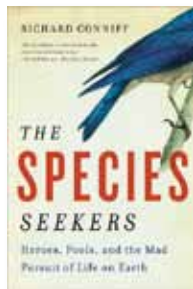
the larger commercial and military needs that underwrote the decision to settle in Botany Bay - namely to gain a key strategic outpost and control natural resources. The culmination of 35 years of study, this groundbreaking work offers surprising insights into Australia's history. 320pp Pb \$24.95 **\$19.95**



**SCIENCE**

**Future Science**  
*Essays from the Cutting Edge*  
**Max Brockman [ed]**

Brockman has talent-spotted 19 young scientists who are working on leading-edge research across a wide range of fields. Nearly half of them are women and all of them are great communicators. Whether their subject be astrobiology, oceanography, neuroscience, microbiology or evolutionary psychology, each scientist's passion and excitement makes this collection a wonderfully invigorating read! 272pp Pb \$18.95



**The Species Seekers**  
*Heroes, Fools and the Mad Pursuit of Life on Earth*  
**Richard Conniff**

From the mid-18th century to the early 20th, a colourful band of amateur naturalists explored the most perilous corners of the planet to discover new life-forms. Amid globe-spanning tales of adventure, Conniff recounts a dramatic historical shift as humans finally discovered the pantheon of life on Earth. 464pp Pb \$22.95



**Tweeting the Universe**

*Tiny Explanations of Very Big Ideas*  
**Marcus Chown & Govert Schilling**

On 140 pages here are 140 explanations of the biggest questions in physics - in the form of 10 or so tweets per page. Each tweet sets the challenge of boiling down what is essential on each subject into sentences of 140 characters, and the results are both entertaining and brilliantly informative. Not a word is wasted. The reader is not patronised and learns something on every page. Precise and so economical, this is unlike any other science book! 320pp Hb \$24.99



**Incomplete Nature**  
*How Mind Emerged from Matter*  
**Terrence W Deacon**

As physicists work toward completing a theory of the universe and biologists unravel the molecular complexity of life, a glaring incompleteness in this

scientific vision becomes apparent. The 'Theory of Everything' that has emerged includes everything but us: the feelings, meanings, consciousness and purposes that make us what we are. Deacon demonstrates how even meanings and values can be understood as legitimate components of the physical world. 624pp Hb \$37.95



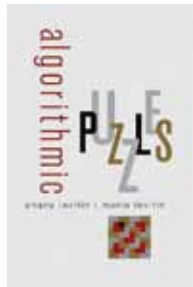
**The Economics and Politics of Climate Change**  
**Dieter Helm**

The international framework for a climate change agreement is up for review as the initial Kyoto period to 2012 comes to an end. Despite enthusiasm

from political and environmental groups, the underlying economics and politics remain highly controversial. This book takes a look at the critical roadblocks to agreement, examining the economics of climate change, the incentives of the main players and the governmental policies that can shift our economies onto a low-carbon path. 576pp Pb \$37.95

**Algorithmic Puzzles**  
**Anany Levitin**

Algorithmic puzzles involve well-defined procedures for solving problems. This book will provide an enjoyable and accessible introduction to algorithmic puzzles and will help to develop the reader's algorithmic thinking. All the puzzles are provided with hints, detailed solutions and brief comments that analyse the techniques used in the solution. 336pp Pb \$25.95





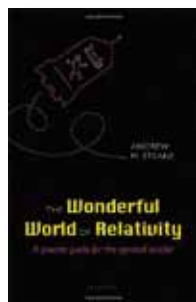
**Knocking on Heaven's Door**  
*How Physics and Scientific Thinking Illuminate the Universe and the Modern World*  
**Lisa Randall**

An exhilarating and accessible overview of recent scientific developments, and a rousing defence of the role that science plays in our lives. Randall explains with wit and clarity the latest ideas in physics and cosmology. By answering our biggest questions, she reveals how science can ultimately tell us who we are and where we came from. 464pp Hb \$49.95



**Radioactivity**  
*A History of a Mysterious Science*  
**Marjorie C Malley**

This is the story of a new science. Beginning with an obscure discovery in 1896, radioactivity led researchers on a quest for knowledge about a great scientific mystery. Not merely an historical account, this book examines philosophical issues connected with radioactivity and relates its topics to broader issues regarding the nature of science. 288pp Hb \$25.95



**The Wonderful World of Relativity**  
**Andrew Steane**

A lively introduction to Einstein's theory of relativity, this begins by introducing spacetime in the familiar context of low velocities. It shows how Einstein's theory forces us to understand time in a new way. Paradoxes and puzzles are introduced and resolved and the book culminates in a thorough unfolding of the relation between mass and energy. 248pp Hb \$37.95

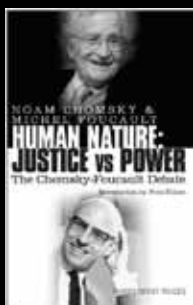
**The Quantum Universe**  
**Brian Cox & Jeff Forshaw**  
Hb \$35 Due early January



**TODAY'S WORLD**

**Screw Business as Usual**

**Sir Richard Branson**  
Branson reveals his exciting new vision for the future, advocating that it is now time to turn capitalism upside down - to shift our values, to switch from a profit focus to caring for people, communities and the planet. With inspiration for everyone, this book shows how easy it is for both businesses and individuals to embark on a whole new way of doing things, solving major problems and turning our work into something we both love and are proud of. 384pp Pb \$29.95



**Human Nature**  
*Justice Versus Power: The Chomsky-Foucault Debate*  
**Noam Chomsky & Michel Foucault**  
In 1971, at a time of enormous political and social change, two of the 20th century's most influential public intellectuals, Noam

Chomsky and Michel Foucault, were invited by the Dutch philosopher Fons Elders onto TV to debate the question: is there an innate human nature independent of our experiences and external influences? The resulting dialogue is one of the most original, provocative, and spontaneous exchanges to have occurred between contemporary philosophers. 80pp Pb \$21.95

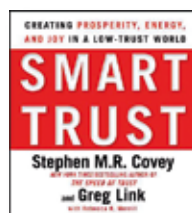
**How the World Works**  
**Noam Chomsky**

With exceptional clarity and power of argument, Noam Chomsky lays bare the realities of contemporary geopolitics. Divided into four sections which were originally published in the US as individual short books that collectively sold over half a million copies, this covers: *What Uncle Sam Really Wants; The Prosperous Few and the Restless Many; Secrets, Lies and Democracy and The Common Good*. 336pp Pb \$24.95



**Smart Trust**  
**Stephen M R Covey**

Trust continues to be the most pivotal element needed in successful relationships - from the personal to the political to business. Covey demonstrates how to develop optimal trust relationships, revealing how this approach has already been successfully used for both organisations and on a personal level. He offers targeted advice on how to make trust relationships work in your business and your life. 320pp Tp \$29.99



**Who Repo'd My Jet?**

*The Manic Millionaires and Why They'll Lead Us to the Next Boom and Bust*

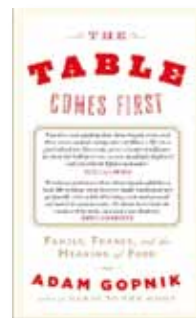
**Robert Frank**

This chronicles the decline of the newly moneyed class: their mortgaged mansions, blown-up balance sheets and wrecked lives. But who cares about the sudden discomfort of the rich amidst so much mass hardship? Aside from eliciting pure schadenfreude, this engrossing book explains the deeper economic shocks that come from precipitous losses at the top, illuminating the impact the rich have had upon the global economy. 256pp Tp \$32.95



**The Table Comes First**  
**Adam Gopnik**

Our modern society is very particular about what constitutes good food. But throughout history, every generation has believed that it alone knows the true value of food, and looked with distaste on the culinary practices of its predecessors. Gopnik envisions a new 'physiology of taste' which will enable us to dispense with this moralising attitude and concentrate on the pleasure principle: food is to be enjoyed, and to help us enjoy life in turn. 304pp Hb \$39.99



**The Truth About IKEA**

*How IKEA Built its Global Furniture Empire*  
**Johan Stenebo**

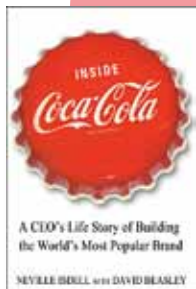
For 20 years, Stenebo was one of the leading directors of IKEA while it transformed itself into the world's largest flatpack furniture retailer. During these years, he was the personal assistant to Ingvar Kamprad, the billionaire founder and owner of IKEA. He writes frankly about Kamprad's inspirational leadership of the company... as well as Kamprad's Nazi links, IKEA's low wage bill, exceptional profits and its complex, Stasi-like business culture. 320pp Pb \$22.99



**Inside Coca-Cola**

*A CEO's Life Story of Building the World's Most Popular Brand*  
**Neville Isdell with David Beasley**

Isdell was a key player at Coca-Cola for more than 30 years, retiring in 2009 as CEO after repairing the tarnished image of the world's leading soft-drink company. He helped put out huge public relations fires in India and Turkey, opened markets in Russia, Eastern Europe, Philippines and Africa - all while living the ideal of corporate responsibility. This is a look at how companies can market themselves ethically and to great success. 272pp Hb \$29.99



**The Coke Machine**  
*The Dirty Truth Behind the World's Favorite Soft Drink*

**Michael Blanding**

Coca-Cola has billed itself as the world's beverage, a formula that has made it one of the most profitable companies on the planet. But as the company expands its reach, an increasing number of people are finding the taste of Coke more bitter than sweet. Michael Blanding probes shocking accusations of the company's history of winning - at any cost. This book is the first comprehensive probe of the company and its secret formula for greed. 384pp Pb \$19.95







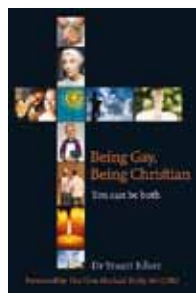
## The Atheist's Guide to Reality

*Enjoying Life Without Illusions*

**Alex Rosenberg**

We can't avoid the persistent questions about the meaning of life - and the nature of reality. Philosopher Alex Rosenberg maintains

that science is the only thing that can answer all of them. His bracing and ultimately upbeat book takes physics seriously as the complete description of reality. Drawing upon powerful implications for the ethical and political issues that roil contemporary life, he concludes that nihilism is a surprisingly sanguine perspective that atheists can happily embrace. 352pp Hb \$32.95



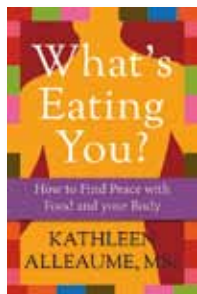
## Being Gay, Being Christian You Can Be Both

**Dr Stuart Edser**  
Gay or same-sex attracted people can be both gay and Christian; the two are not mutually exclusive. Edser presents an alternative model of Christian discourse to

what we usually hear and offers a positive voice so often glaringly absent from the Church's utterances on homosexuality. He argues passionately for church people everywhere to open their minds and show a willingness to discard older ways of thinking where more modern explanations elucidate the truth more closely. 256pp Tp \$34.99

## What's Eating You? How to Find Peace with Food and Your Body

**Kathleen Alleaume**  
Modern women don't just eat food - they eat words, emotions and circumstances too. This book delves into the psychology of eating and explores the constant battle women have with their bodies. With a mix of qualified research, personal stories and almost a decade of professional experience, Alleaume offers both philosophical and practical solutions to overcome the hidden cues influencing eating behaviours, lifestyle and health. 368pp Tp \$34.95



## The Viral Storm The Dawn of a New Pandemic Age

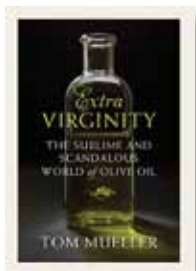
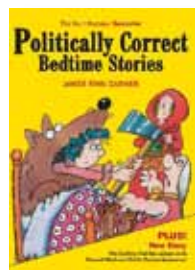
**Nathan Wolfe**  
Biologist Nathan Wolfe examines the world of viruses, explaining how viruses and human beings have evolved side by side through history; how deadly viruses like

HIV, swine flu and bird flu almost wiped us out in the past; and why modern life has made our species vulnerable to the threat of a global pandemic. His provocative vision of the future will change the way we think about viruses and may even remove a potential threat to the survival of humanity. 320pp Tp \$29.95

## Politically Correct Bedtime Stories

**James Finn Garner**

In a collection guaranteed to provoke both laughter and thought, 14 timeless fairy tales are revisited and reworked to become relevant fables for modern times. These hilarious adaptations satirise and sanitise the sexist, racist, nationalist, ageist, sizeist, ethnocentrist and phallocentrist biases of classic bedtime stories. Familiar exploits of beloved characters are related from a respectful, prejudice-free perspective. This edition includes a redesigned jacket and previously unpublished story. 112pp Pb \$17.95

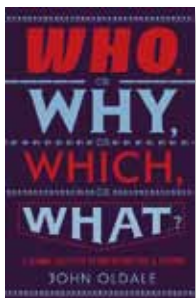


## Extra Virginity The Sublime and Scandalous World of Olive Oil

**Tom Mueller**

This is an evocative history of olive oil and of how the finest oil-manufacturers - artisans who are rooted in the

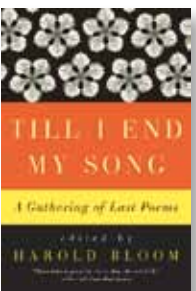
deep south of Italy - are endangered by the international corruption of the billionaire oil barons who are destroying the reputation of one of mankind's oldest and most versatile products. This book is rich with the cultural significance of olive oil and the passion of those who produce it. 288pp Pb \$29.99



## Who, or Why, or Which, or What...? A Global Gazetteer of the Instructive and Strange

**John Oldale**  
With a reasonable claim to be the most useful book ever written, this is a cornucopia of history, travel, politics, wildlife, language - indeed, a celebration of everything which makes this planet so fascinating! With an entry for every country, this beautifully illustrated book is jammed with peculiar, fascinating and surprising information. Whether you are interested in man-eating catfishes, the use of wizards to influence archery contests or the location of the Land of Hum, this is the book for you! 320pp Hb \$39.95

## POETRY & LANGUAGE



## Till I End My Song A Gathering of Last Poems

**Harold Bloom [ed]**

In this delightful anthology, Bloom has meticulously curated the last poems of 100 influential poets. These poems offer a lens through which to contemplate the enduring nature of art and the inevitability of death. Bloom's selections highlight the work of canonised poets such as T S Eliot, W B Yeats and William Shakespeare, but also revive interest in distinguished long-neglected poets, such as Conrad Aiken and William Cowper. 416pp Tp \$29.99

## From Elvish to Klingon Exploring Invented Languages

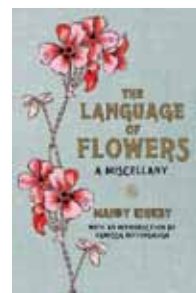
**Michael Adams**

How are languages invented? And why? Who uses them? What are the cultural effects? This fascinating book looks at all manner of invented languages and explores the origins, purpose and usage of these curious artefacts of culture. Written by experts in the field, each chapter discusses languages from Esperanto to Klingon, and uncover the motives behind their creation and the outcomes of their existence. 304pp Hb \$23.95



## The Language of Flowers Mandy Kirkby

While everyone knows that red roses signify love, few realise that an entire language of flowers exists - with every bloom, foliage and plant having a particular emotion attached. This unique language was created by the romantic early Victorians who carefully planned every bouquet so as to deliver a desired message. Bringing the language to a new generation, this beautifully illustrated miscellany contains 50 profiled flowers, a dictionary searchable by emotion, and bouquet ideas. 192pp Hb \$24.99



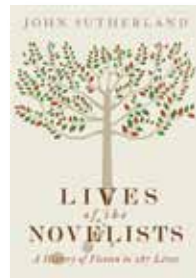
## Socrates A Man for Our Times

**Paul Johnson**  
Johnson masterfully disentangles centuries of scarce sources to offer a riveting account of a homely but charismatic middle-class man living in Athens in the fifth century B.C. How this man thought still shapes our understanding of how we determine our actions and our notions of body and soul. Johnson provides a compelling picture of the city and people Socrates reciprocally delighted in, as well as many enlightening analyses of aspects of his personality. 208pp Hb \$29.95



## Lives of the Novelists A History of Fiction in 294 Lives

**John Sutherland**  
Sutherland presents the lives of 294 novelists writing in English, from the genre's 17th century origins to the present day. Arranged in chronological order, the novelist's lives are opinionated, informative, frequently funny and often shocking. The book reveals the changing form of the genre and how the aspirations of authors to educate their readers has radically changed over the centuries, while the interest in sex and relationships remains remarkably constant. 704pp Hb \$59.99







Here's wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year – and I quite like that other word which is sometimes used... Prosperous New Year! And maybe even New Year filled with Sunshine (which seems in rather short supply in December while I write this).

Firstly, nice news. Poet Robert Gray received the \$50,000 *Emeritus Award* from the Australia Council, which is especially gratifying as it is decided by the writer's peers. His **New Selected Poetry** (\$19.99 Pb), first published in 1999, is in stock, but his most recent work has been to compile, with Geoffrey Lehmann, the massive anthology **Australian Poetry Since 1788** (\$69.95 Hb 1,108pp). This 'must have' for any reader of Australian poetry contains over 1,000 poems from 170 Australian poets, as well as short critical biographies of some. I've heard tell that this major work received extra financial support via a personal donation from a local book lover. Be sure to also read Robert's memoir published in 2008, **The Land I Came Through Last** (\$34.95 Pb 436pp), which is beautifully written. I was intrigued to read that as a small boy he spent time at the Royal Far West Children's Home in Manly – in fact he ran away from there and was caught on the Manly ferry! Very exciting. Now, in 2012, the famous Royal Far West Home, originally begun to provide medical services for children from the outback, is facing up to the 21st century with a plan to replace the buildings overlooking Manly Beach. Locals, like me, are keeping an eye on these plans.

Retired NSW politician Andrew Tink came to our 28th Annual Zonta Meet the Author Evening on the last Wednesday in November. He has previously written a biography of one of New South Wales' most picaresque early politicians, **William Charles Wentworth: Australia's Greatest Native Son** (\$49.99 Hb 360pp) which won the *Copyright Agency Limited Prize* last year. Australian Scholarly Press has now issued his second book **Lord Sydney: The Life and Times of Tommy Townshend** (\$39.95 Hb 315pp). You won't be surprised to hear that you don't sound the "h" in that name. Tommy came from a famous British political family and was described as "a John Bull figure, full of bumptious self-confidence". He spent most of his life in opposition, but he was Home Secretary when the decision was made to send convicts to Australia, so he was the one who commissioned the ships to sail. Andrew gleefully pointed out one of the fine illustrations in his book. This is a facsimile of a page listing all the people working under Townshend, a total of 17 staff to run the entire Empire! These 17 people included two under-secretaries, a tea lady and a porter! His name appears often in our Australian surroundings, but during his lifetime he was more active in supporting the American colonists in their desire for independence.

Nicholas Hasluck found some good reasons to use his Frequent Flyer points and came all the way from Perth to join us at the Zonta Meet the Author Evening. Readers of the third volume of Frank Moorhouse's Edith Trilogy, **Cold Light** (\$29.99 Pb 368pp), will get special pleasure from Nicholas' book **Dismissal** (\$29.99 Pb 368pp) as it begins in early Canberra among a group of permanent public servants, about the same time Edith returned to Canberra after the collapse of the League of Nations.

We did receive some criticism about the Zonta night – in that all the authors were men, whereas the Zonta Club is one which works to improve the status of women! Fair criticism, but it just so happened that two female authors I invited were not able to come. We raised over \$900 so that was worthwhile.

I'm looking forward to reading the new book by Michael Lewis, a terrific American writer who has managed to make Economics exciting. In fact, the listing in *Books in Print* includes Humour as well as Economics as a possible category for **Boomerang: The Meltdown Tour** (\$39.95 Hb 240pp) wherein he travels across Europe investigating the results of the Global Financial Crisis. His other books include **Panic: The Story of Modern Financial Insanity** (\$26.95 Pb 400pp) and **The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine** (\$24.95 Pb 288pp). You will appreciate that Michael Lewis can tell a good story when I remind you that he is also the author of two books which

have been made into successful movies. The first is **Blind Side** (\$19.95 Pb 320pp) about the big American footballer who was adopted by a family and became a huge star. Sandra Bullock won her *Academy Award* for this. The other is **Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game** (\$19.95 Pb 320pp) about the coach who decided to buy cheaper players and make them into a prize-winning team. I won't miss this new film starring Brad Pitt.

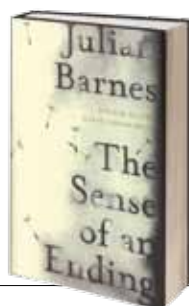
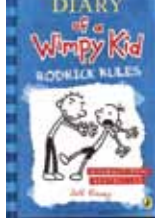
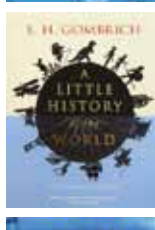
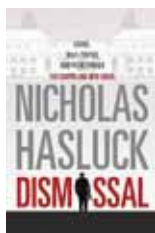
I made sure I gave copies of **A Little History of the World Illustrated Edition** by E H Gombrich (\$34.95 Hb 304pp with over 200 illustrations) to my grandchildren. In fact I want one myself. This beautifully written, sweeping history of the world from the Stone Age to the atomic bomb is made more complete by the gorgeous illustrations, many suggested by Gombrich at the time. It is not dominated by facts and figures and has lovely clear maps. It reads like a story and even if you are not especially interested in history it will be useful. You will know a little about many famous events which pop up in conversation or reading. It was first published in German in 1935, and published in English in 2005, by which time Gombrich was especially famous for his unsurpassed **The Story of Art** (\$59.95 Pb). This is now in its 16th revised edition and is a permanent title in the Art section of any decent bookshop. We also have a paperback edition of **A Little History of the World** without the illustrations. This is \$24.95 and is in the Children's section.

Lindy Jones is settling in to her new desk where she is in control of our Children's Section. We're hoping that soon we will have better access to the wonderful selection of children's books she has chosen, ranging from familiar classics to the latest craze, whether it is Harry Potter or Stephenie Meyer or Jeff Kinney. I gave one of Jeff Kinney's **Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Roderick Rules** (\$14.95 Pb 226pp) to grandson Will, already a keen reader. As the Wimpy Kid is about 12 or 13, with all the anxieties of that age, this series is a great introduction for boys (and girls) of that age. The typeface is easy and there are funny line drawings. Upstairs in **Language Book Centre** they have some of these books in Swedish, French, Persian, German, Italian, Dutch and Spanish. If they don't have the one you would like, I am sure they can order them for you.

I have read Julian Barnes' *Man Booker Prize*-winner **The Sense of an Ending** (\$29.95 Hb 160pp) and I'm more than pleased that this was judged the winner for 2011 and I also feel sure that all the people who got this for Christmas will be pleased. Barnes' forte is to take apart the actions and emotions, especially of men, men of ordinary passions – and find some intriguing insight that makes them no longer ordinary. He is also an accomplished short story writer, as you will find in **Lemon Table** (\$24.95 Pb 224pp) or **Pulse** (\$14.95 Pb). Years ago he was famous for the book with the wonderful title **Flaubert's Parrot** (\$12.95 Pb 192pp) in which he dissected the famous French writer who borrowed a parrot from the museum for his own research. Another book is **Arthur and George** (\$12.95 Pb) about two very different men, one famous and the other ordinary, living in 19th century Britain. I plan to read **Before She Met Me** (\$24.95 Pb 144pp) about a husband who has left his wife for a younger woman and now begins to wonder what his new wife is really like. Also, because all these books are not long, I plan to read **The Porcupine** (\$24.95 Pb 144pp) about a deposed party leader on trial in a Soviet satellite state. It is a relief to know that you can rely on Julian Barnes to always produce a first-class, intelligent novel. We do also have an audio edition of another of his famous books **A History of the World in Ten and a Half Chapters** (\$94.95 9CDs) which of course is not history at all but is another of his short story collections.

Keep well,

Eve





# Abbey's Bargains

**January**  
WHILE STOCKS LAST



**Ancient Greeks** *An Introduction* **Stephanie Budin** Pb \$29.95 **\$20**

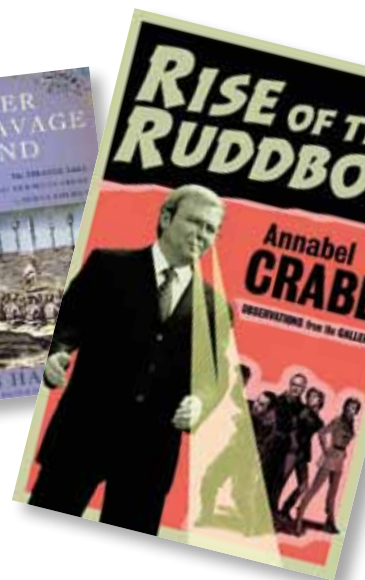
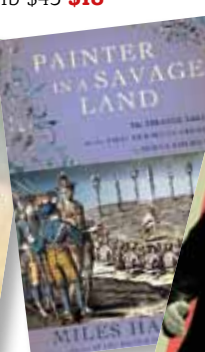
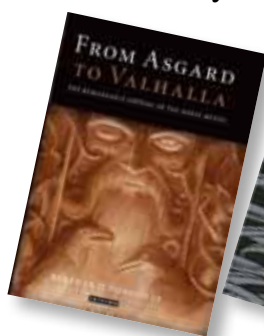
**Egypt** *How a Lost Civilization was Rediscovered* **Joyce Tyldesley** Hb \$52.95 **\$18**

**The Foe Within** *Fantasies of Treason and the End of Imperial Russia* **William Fuller** Hb \$57.95 **\$18**

**Daily Life of the Etruscans** **Jacques Heurgon** Pb \$35 **\$10**

**The Ides** *Caesar's Murder and the War for Rome* **Stephen Dando-Collins** Pb \$32.95 **\$15**

**Mistress of the Monarchy** *The Life of Katherine Swynford, Duchess of Lancaster* **Alison Weir** Hb \$45 **\$18**



**From Asgard to Valhalla** *The Remarkable History of the Norse Myths* **Heather O'Donoghue** Hb \$56 **\$18**

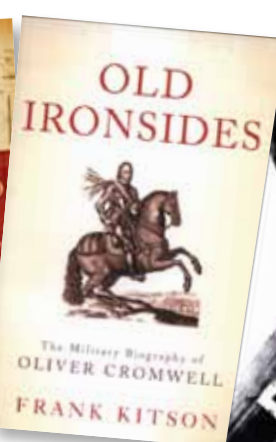
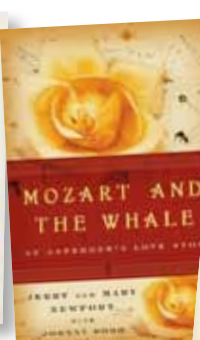
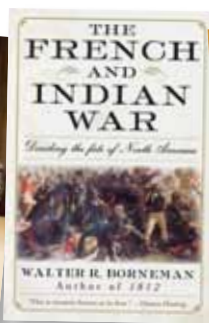
**W B Yeats A Life II, The Arch Poet 1915-1939** **R F Foster** Pb \$47.95 **\$15**

**World Without End?** *Environmental Disaster and the Collapse of Empires* **Ian Whyte** Hb \$69 **\$18**

**The West and the Map of the World** *A Reappraisal of the Past* **Matthew Richardson** Hb \$69.99 **\$20**

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**Rise of the Ruddbot** *Observations from the Gallery* **Annabel Crabb** Pb \$32.95 **\$13**



**Restless** **William Boyd** Hb \$59.95 **\$15**

**We Two** *Victoria and Albert: Rulers, Partners, Rivals* **Gillian Gill** Hb \$49.95 **\$18**

**The French and Indian War** *Deciding the Fate of North America* **Walter Borneman** Pb \$25.95 **\$10**

**Mozart and the Whale** *An Asperger's Love Story* **Jerry Newport** Hb \$39.95 **\$15**

**Old Ironsides** *The Military Biography of Oliver Cromwell* **Frank Kitson** Pb \$27 **\$10**

**The Life and Death of Democracy** **John Keane** Hb \$49.95 **\$18**



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- Death Comes to Pemberley**  
P D James (Pb \$29.99)
- The Sense of an Ending**  
Julian Barnes (Hb \$29.95)
- All That I Am**  
Anna Funder (Pb \$29.95)
- The Prague Cemetery**  
Umberto Eco (Tp \$32.95)
- Prague Fatale Bernhard Gunther #8**  
Philip Kerr (Pb \$24.99) – more stock due Jan
- The Street Sweeper**  
Elliot Perlman (Pb \$32.95)
- The Cat's Table**  
Michael Ondaatje (Pb \$29.95)
- A Visit from the Goon Squad**  
Jennifer Egan (Pb \$19.99)
- Cooking the Books**  
Kerry Greenwood (Pb \$22.99)
- Cold Light Edith Trilogy #3**  
Frank Moorhouse (Pb \$32.95)

**Editor:** Craig Kirchner

**Contributors:** Eve Abbey, Alan Abbey, Kelly Azizi, David Hall, Lindy Jones

## NON-FICTION

- Great Railway Maps of the World**  
Mark Ovenden (Hb \$39.95)
- Steve Jobs The Exclusive Biography**  
Walter Isaacson (Hb \$45)
- Best Australian Political Cartoons 2011**  
Russ Radcliffe [ed] (Pb \$29.95)
- Double Entry How the Merchants of Venice Shaped the Modern World**  
Jane Gleeson-White (Hb \$29.99)
- The Magic of Reality How We Know What's Really True**  
Richard Dawkins (Hb \$39.95)
- Lord Sydney The Life and Times of Tommy Townshend**  
Andrew Tink (Hb \$39.95)
- Keynes Hayek The Clash that Defined Modern Economics**  
Nicholas Wapshott (Pb \$35)
- You Kant Make it Up! Strange Ideas from History's Greatest Philosophers**  
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Max Cryer (Pb \$22.99)

**Pb** Paperback

**Tp** Trade paperback (a larger Pb)

**Hb** Hardback

NOW IN PAPERBACK... NOW IN PAPERBACK... NOW IN PAPERBACK... NOW IN PAPERBACK... NOW IN PAPERBACK...

## FICTION

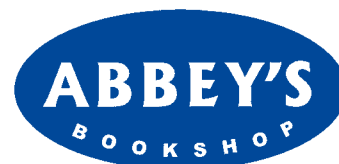
- True Soldier Gentlemen**  
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**Adrian Goldsworthy** \$19.99
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- The English Ghost**  
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**John Carroll** \$27.95
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