**Issue #201** 

# May 2006

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A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

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### Griffith Review #12 Hot Air: How Nigh's the End?

Julianne SCHULTZ (ed) Pb \$16.95 As always, the Griffith Review presents its readers with an assortment of interesting views on topical subjects this time, on environmental (climate change) concerns. Essays from such luminaries as Ian Lowe on attitudes to sustainability, Peter Doherty on greed and the need to act, Geoffrey Blainey on continued dependence on mining, Rosaleen Love on the corals of the Great

Barrier Reef. Robyn Williams decries the confusion of science and ideology, James Woodford looks at the implications of global warming in Australia, and there is the usual mix of memoir, fiction and poetry to round out the science. Engaging, sometimes infuriating, but essential Lindy reading!

# **BOOKMARK THE**

### 22-28 MAY www.swf.org.au FESTIVAL

#### Featuring from Palgrave: **KAREN FINLEY**

George & Martha Pb \$20.00 Finley's most scandalous work to date, a hilarious satire that takes a radical stand on political power, psychosexual relations between men and women, and the current state of affairs. This book is lavishly illustrated with drawings by the author.

#### PAUL KRASSNER

**One Hand Jerking** Pb \$29.00 Counterculture legend Krassner looks at life, celebrity, politics, war, drugs and porn.

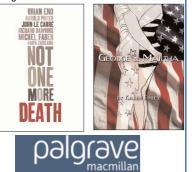
#### CHRIS TURNEY

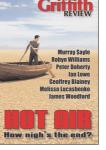
Bones, Rocks and Stars Hb \$54.00 Turney explains how written records, carbon, pollen, tree rings, constellations, and DNA sequencing can help archaeologists, paleontologists and geologists to 'tell the time'. due July

HAIFA ZANGANA, (appearing at SWF) JOHN LE CARRÉ, RICHARD DAWKINS, BRIAN ENO, MICHEL FABER, & HAROLD PINTER Not One More Death

#### Pb \$9.95

Calls on the US and UK to withdraw troops from Irag now, and for Bush and Blair to be brought to account for this illegal war.

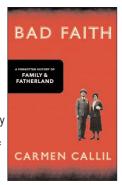




# **Bad Faith**

A Forgotten History of Family & Fatherland

Carmen CALLIL 640pp Tp \$32.95 The system of persecution and bureaucratised murder that Louis Darquier served, as Commissioner for Jewish Affairs while organising the Vichy government's dirty work, invites both fury and contempt. Responsible for the confiscation of Jewish property and the despatch of thousands of Jewish persons to the death camps, the story of his rise to power in collaboration with the Nazis in



France deserves to be read for both its extraordinary research and the relentless drive of the narrative itself. Darguier's ascent to power during the years leading up to the Second World War mirrors the rise of French anti-Semitism and the role it played in the horrors that were to follow. He was quick to adopt a nationalist anti-Semitism that came from deep suspicion of all foreigners, and by 1936 he was receiving messages of gratitude, as well as funding, from Nazi Germany. His wife, alcoholic bigamist Myrtle Jones from Tasmania, was the biological mother to their daughter Anne Darquier, whom they abandoned as a baby in England so as to better enjoy themselves in Vichy France. Anne's suicide, decades later, was the inspiration for this astonishingly passionate ode to the utter loathsomeness of Darquier, his comrades and their unspeakable ilk. Utterly compelling. Cara



Where Ideas Grow

Miles Franklin Shortlist

If you think you can pick what the judges will choose as the winner, simply spend \$50 at Abbey's and go in the draw to win two tickets to the 2007 Miles Franklin Award dinner in Sydney next year (travel costs excluded). The first correct entry drawn on 23 June will win the prize.

#### Brian Castro: The Garden Book

Pb \$27.95 Set in the Dandenongs between the Depression and WWII, this book revolves around Swan Hay, the daughter of a Chinese schoolteacher, and her relationships with brutal bushman Darcy Damon, and an American aviator and adventurer.

#### Kate Grenville: The Secret River

368pp Hb \$45.00 After a childhood of poverty and petty crime in the slums of London, William Thornhill is sentenced in 1806 to be transported to New South Wales for the term of his natural life. With his wife Sal and children in tow, he arrives in a harsh land that feels at first like a death sentence, but among the convicts there is a whisper that freedom can be bought, an opportunity to start afresh.

#### Roger McDonald: The Ballad of Desmond Kale

Tp \$32.95

Rich in the characterisations and earthiness of its early 1800s setting, this is an inspired recreation of the early days of Anglo-Australian settlement. It tells the tale of the escape of Desmond Kale - an Irish political prisoner and sheep breeder - and the vengeance of his rival, the wildly eccentric parson magistrate, Matthew Stanton. Cara

#### Carrie Tiffany: Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living

### 256pp Pb \$22.00

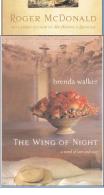
This charming little story set during the depression in Australia sees the meeting and marriage of two idealistic people who set out to improve farming methods in their rural community. Their hearts are poured into the effort that is hampered by the conditions, both environmental and economic. Your heart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

#### Brenda Walker: The Wing of Night

208pp Tp \$29.95

This is a novel about the strength and failure of faith and memory, about returned soldiers who become exiles in their own country, about how people may become the very opposite of what they imagined themselves to be. Walker writes with a terrible grandeur of the grime and drudge of the battlefield and of how neither men nor women can be consoled for the wreckage caused by a foreign war.





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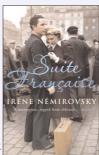
### Mothers' Day Suggestions

With Mother's Day nearly upon us, here are some things that have piqued my interest lately and would make good gift ideas for other like-minded mothers.

Do you remember that wonderful book Colour (Pb \$27.95) by Victoria Finlay? It is an utterly fascinating tour through the process and history of making colour, from the ochre used by Aboriginals in outback Australia to the exotic lapis lazuli used by the Egyptians. Well, Finlay has a new jewel of a book called Buried Treasure: Travels Through the Jewellery Box (428pp Pb \$35). Her search takes her to Egypt to find the lost emerald mines of Cleopatra, to the Australian opal fields with their underground towns, to Burma where she is spied on by the military junta, and to a secret location to meet the world's best diamond cutter. Did you know that amber is the tears of

prehistoric trees? Or that Peridot falls to earth from space? Or that one gem links Queen Victoria and a transvestite skeleton? I can't imagine any mother not interested in owning a few jewels, and this is the true story of these miraculous oddities of nature.

Here is an extraordinary tale. Irene Nermirovsky was born in Kiev in 1903, the daughter of a successful Jewish banker. In 1918, her family fled the Russian Revolution for France, where she became a bestselling novelist. When the Germans occupied France, she was prevented from publishing, so moved with her husband and two small daughters from Paris to the safety of the small village of Issy-l'Eveque (in German-occupied territory). It was here in 1941 that she began writing Suite Francaise (403pp Tp \$32.95), which was to have been part of a four- or five-part novel. Having written only the first two parts, she died in Auschwitz in 1942. Only recently discovered by her daughter, this is a remarkable and beautiful piece of writing. Andrew Reimer, chief reviewer for the Sydney Morning Herald, said that had it been finished, this could have rivalled Tolstoy and is the best work of fiction to come his way for many years. Don't miss it!



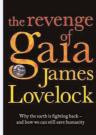
**Buried** Treasure

Historical Fiction seems to be taking over General Fiction in Abbey's and there is no better place to start than with Alison Wier's Innocent Traitor (320pp Tp \$32.95). This is also my chance to apologise for listing this in History in the last Abbey's Advocate. (I'm so accustomed to walking past Medieval and British History and seeing a shelf-full of Weir's wonderful works). Cara says, "Weir's subject for her debut historical novel is Lady Jane Grey, the bravest, most sympathetic and most wronged woman of Tudor England. Born into the most dangerous of times, she was the child of a scheming father and a ruthless mother, for whom she was but a pawn in a dynastic game with the highest of stakes. She was used by greedy and unscrupulous men to satisfy their own ambitions, the victim of abuse in childhood, then sold into an unhappy marriage and forced to accept a crown she did not want. Although it was a brief life spent in thrall to political machinations and lethal religious fervour, she fought a good fight and kept her faith, although ultimately losing her husband, her crown and her life. Heady stuff indeed!" Just arrived is Boudica: Dreaming the Serpent (Tp \$35.00), the fourth and final title in this exciting series by Manda Scott. Set in AD 60, Boudica must do more than lead her army in the greatest rebellion Britain has ever known. She must heal herself, the land and Graine, her eight-year-old daughter, who has taken refuge on Mona. Is revenge worth it under any circumstances, or is the cost more than anyone can bear? Colchester is burning and London is lost without hope. Amidst fire and bloody revolution, Boudica and those around her must find what matters most, now and forever. Boudica: Dreaming the Hound, part three, is now available in Pb (\$21.95)

Cara also recommends Towelhead by Alicia Erian (Pb \$23), in which the savagery of adolescence is given a fierce new protagonist in Jasira, a teenage Lebanese-American child of the 21st century living in Houston with her father, alienated from herself and estranged from her mother. Tessa Kiros, author of the beautiful Falling Cloudberries (432pp Hb \$69.95), has a new cookbook, Apples for Jam (Hb \$69.95). Inspired by the excitement and simplicity of childhood, Kiros has brought together recipes based around colourful, pure, fresh ingredients. If you missed out on The Silver Spoon (1,168pp Hb \$59.95) we have more in stock. This work of enormous historical and gastronomic importance has finally been translated into English after 50 years. With over 2,000 recipes this is both practical and elegant.

If it's a stiff dose of reality that mother is after, I beg you to choose Tim Flannery's The Weather Makers: The History and Future Impact of Climate Change (332pp Tp \$32.95). Anyone standing still has been regaled by me with disturbing facts and trends about our rapidly heating planet, so precisely and thoroughly presented by one of the world's most important living scientists. I've also been carrying around James Lovelock's new book everywhere I go,

The Revenge of Gaia: Why the Earth is Fighting Back and How We Can Still Save Humanity (177pp Pb \$29.95). Years ago, I read Gaia: A New Look at Life on Earth (Pb \$29.95), in which he first proposed the theory of 'Gaia' that the Earth functions as a self-regulating entity. Now, 20 years later, the overwhelming body of scientific opinion agrees with him. This is even more compelling than Flannery's book. When explaining the right mix of energy sources we need, Lovelock says, "Meanwhile, at the world's climate centres, the barometer continues to fall and tell of the imminent danger of a climate storm whose severity the Earth has not endured for 55 million years. But in the cities, the party goes on; how much longer before reality enters our minds?" The days of debating whether global warming is just a lot of hot

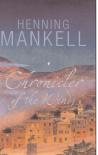


air coming from crazy greenies are over. Lovelock, (86 at the time of writing this!) has been studying these issues for so long, and with such accuracy, it is time to heed his words of wisdom. "We have to realise that cutting back our emissions of greenhouse gasses is only part of what we have to do; we also have to stop using the land surface a if it was ours alone. It is not: it belongs to the community of ecosystems that serve all life by regulating the climate and chemical composition of the earth. Ann

### Fiction **Chronicler of the Winds** 240pp Tp \$32.95

Henning MANKELL

One night, Jose Antonio Maria Vaz hears gunfire from the deserted theatre next door to his bakery. He races to the theatre's uppermost gallery and there, beneath him on the spotlit stage, lies the wounded body of Nelio, a street urchin renowned for living on his wits. Gasping, the wounded boy asks to be taken to the roof to breathe the beautiful air fresh off the Indian Ocean. His life ebbing away, Nelio begins his story. At the age of five,



he watched helplessly as his village was burned to the ground and his people massacred by bandits. He escaped by chance; a man handed him a gun and ordered him to shoot another boy, but instead he turned the gun on the bandit and ran. He made his way to the coast, encountering en route bizarre characters who gave him guidance. Arriving in the city, Nelio joined a rough street gang and began a very different way of life.

# The Tenth Circle

Jodi PICOULT

Comic-book artist Daniel Stone never for a moment suspected that the same boy whom his 14year-old daughter, Trixie, loved might inflict upon her the worst possible harm. Could the young man, who once made Trixie's face fill with light when he came to the door, have drugged and then raped her? She says he did, and that's all it takes to make Daniel (a man with a past he has hidden



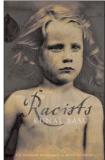
416pp Tp \$29.95

even from his family) venture to hell and back to protect his daughter. With a story that transports readers from small-town New England to the wilds of the Alaskan bush, and interspersed with parallel vision through the striking pen-and-ink pages of Daniel's graphic novel, Picoult probes the unbreakable bond between parent and child and the dangerous repercussions of trying to play the hero.

## Racists

Kunal BASU In 1855, the most ambitious eugenics experiment begins on a deserted Mediterranean island, pitting a British craniologist, Dr Samuel Bates, against his French rival, Jean-Louis Belavoix. Two infants, a black boy and a white girl, are raised on the island by a dumb nurse (Norah) away from all human contact, but monitored twice yearly by Bates, Belavoix and their assistant, Nicholas Quartley. Bates claims the white





child will show signs of natural superiority, while Belavoix claims the two races will be equal, with each side showing the urge to conquer and ultimately destroy the other. Bates and Belavoix become rivals for Norah's attention, but she and Quartley are secretly in love, which fuels even more intense competition between the three men. By the time Norah reveals she is not dumb after all, the experiment is already in jeopardy. Doubts surface in London over the scientists' real intentions at a time when Darwin's evolution theories begin to emerge. Captain Perry, who supplies a ferry service to the island, agrees to help Norah and Quartley escape with the children, but before Perry can return to the island to rescue them, an 'accident' turns their reunion into tragedy.

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## Fiction Swallow the Air

Tara June WINCH 212pp Hb \$28.00 If you only read one indigenous Australian novel this year, make sure it is this one by Murri writer TJ Winch. A chapter from this remarkable novel was previously published in The Best Australian Stories 2005 (Pb \$24.95) and the book more than lives up to the promise of the extract. It's a bittersweet tale of memory, loss and belonging, courage and the ties of blood, culture and friendship. The writing is awesome, bold and vivid in its immediacy; I can't recommend it highly enough. I'm hoping to see it on the Australian literary prize circuit within the year. due May

### An Acre of Barren Ground Jeremy GAVRON

This bold and brilliant new novel invites you on a remarkable walking tour, during which the ghosts of London's Brick Lane open up their front doors. Each house has a story to tell. At number 30, in the autumn of 1888, a man is arrested with a packet of entrails in his pocket and Inspector Abberline wonders if he has caught the Whitechapel murderer. Where number 111 now stands, a medieval apprentice and a young nun are caught meeting at a spring. At 98, in 1904, the People's Revolution gets underway. As we journey down the street, these lives begin to echo across time. At number 41, a man tries to hide his family in the shadows of a ruined London. 1,500

years later, a gangster's sister lives with the consequences of having been found. At number 246, a mammoth dies, and long afterwards, a giant's thighbone is discovered. Is there something about Brick Lane that has shaped these lives? Bangladeshis, Jews, Huguenots, brewers, soldiers, farmers and medieval monks - people on the run and families determined to make a new home. due Mav

### Wild Amazement

Michael WILDING

176pp Pb \$25.95 In this novel, Wilding (author of Academia Nuts Pb \$26.95), explores the shadowy interface of literature and politics, bohemian excess and globalised control. From a traditional magic mushroom Australian Christmas, to filming a TV documentary in the pastoral heart of England, this is a panorama of how we have come to live this way.

# An Act of Courage

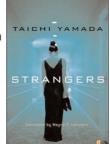
#### Allan MALLISON

Christmas 1826 finds Matthew Hervey of the 6th Light Dragoons a prisoner captured by the Spanish, locked up in the notorious fortress of Badajoz. Escape is on his mind, and so is what happened in 1812, when as a young cornet he was here with Wellington's Peninsular Army. Having survived the terrible retreat to Corunna, Hervey and the Sixth went on to endure three more years of fighting, only to be stalled at Badajoz. The fortress was of huge strategic importance; two sieges had already failed and French resistance was at its bloodiest. As the young Hervey and his comrades prepared for the final attack on the fortress, the only options left were victory or death.

What Hervey cannot know, as he paces his prison cell 14 years later, is that in Lisbon, his close friends - including the beautiful Isabella Delgado - are rushing to his aid. The escape they plan is audacious in the extreme. Stirring stuff indeed! due May Cara

### Strangers

Taichi YAMADA 208pp Pb \$21.95 Middle-aged, jaded and divorced, TV scriptwriter Harada returns one night to the dilapidated downtown district of Tokyo where he grew up. There, at the theatre, he meets a likeable man who looks exactly like his long-dead father. And so begins Harada's ordeal, as he is thrust into a reality where his parents appear to be alive at the same age they were when they died so many years before.





Sue Monk KIDD

320pp Pb \$23.00 Jessie Sullivan has been married half her life, and has become accustomed to her role. But when she returns to the isolated island she grew up on to establish why her mother has been behaving oddly, she finds a lot more than she's looking for. A loving, exuberant character who believes herself to be happy, she has forgotten a hidden part of her spirit - the part represented by the beautiful, vibrant and legendary mermaid carved on a chair in the island's monastery. When she falls passionately in love with a childhood



friend, now a monk, she discovers a place within herself that she never previously imagined could exist.

# The Dolphin People

Torsten KROL

Cara

320pp Hb \$39.95

400pp Pb \$23.95

lerem

368pp Tp \$32.95

In 1946, a German woman and her two young sons arrive in Venezuela to begin a new life. Helga marries her brother-in-law, a doctor, and the boys, Erich and Zeppi, accept him as their stepfather. Together the family fly out to a distant jungle outpost where Klaus is to be the new medical officer, but en route their plane flies into a fierce tropical storm and crashes into a river in a remote Amazon region. They are rescued by the Yayomi, a tribe of stone-age Indians, and welcomed into their way of life, having been mistaken for landbound incarnations of freshwater dolphins.

# **Pulitzer Prize Winners 2006**

#### Fiction March

400pp Pb \$22.95 Geraldine BROOKS This novel focuses on the life of the often-absent father, John March, in Louisa May Alcott's Little Women (Pb \$8.95). March emerges as an abolitionist and idealistic chaplain on the front lines of a war that tests his faith in himself and in the Union cause, since he learns that his side, too, is capable of barbarism and racism. It's great to see an Australian author win this prestigious award!



IMPERIAL

Reckoning

### **General Non-fiction**

Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya

Caroline ELKINS 475pp Pb \$29.00 This catalogue of atrocities and mass killing by the British is an important and excruciating record. It will shock even those who think they have assumed the worst about Europe's era of control in Africa. due May

### Biography

#### American Prometheus The Triumph and Tragedy of J Robert Oppenheimer

Kai BIRD & Martin J SHERWIN

721pp Tp \$39.95 This book recounts the great tragic epic of the 20th century: the discovery of how to release nuclear energy and its application to making bombs capable of destroying entire cities.

## History

Polio: An American Story

352pp Hb \$59.95

David OSHINSKY Oshinsky, a professor of history at the University of Texas, frames the conquest of polio within the cultural upheavals of the time. due July

### Reporting

New York Times reporters Eric Lichtblau and James Risen reported on the Bush Administration's secret, warrantless wiretapping of American citizens in the US. Risen is the author of State of War: The Secret History of the CIA and the Bush Administration (256pp Hb \$45.00), while Lichtblau is the author of Bush Justice (due 2007).

Dana Priest, the Washington Post reporter, wrote a series on the US Government's counter-terrorism campaign abroad, including a network of secret prisons in Eastern Europe. She is the author of The Mission: Waging War and Keeping the Peace with America's Military (430pp Pb \$24.95)



# Biography

### Mozart

#### The Early Years 1756-1781

Stanley SADIE 672pp Hb \$79.95 This new study of Mozart's early years covers the period up to 1781, the year of *Idomeneo* and Mozart's settling in Vienna. Individual works are discussed in sequence and related to the events of his life. The author draws substantially on family correspondence, discussing what the letters tell us about Mozart, his relationships with family and professional colleagues and his word, relating them to the social, economic, cultural and musical environment in which he worked. Taking advantage of all the new material on Mozart that has come to

light in recent years, this book should be in the library of all Mozart fans.

Purchase this book during May and ask to be put in the draw to win **The Oxford Companion to Music** (Hb \$130).

# The Man Who Wrote Mozart

Anthony HOLDEN 256pp Hb \$49.95 In June 1805, a 56-year-old Italian immigrant disembarked in Philadelphia carrying only a violin. Before dying in New York 23 years later, he would find New World respectability as a bookseller, then as the first Professor of Italian at Columbia University. For now, he set up shop as a grocer. There was always an air of mystery about the Abbe Lorenzo da Ponte. A scholarly poet, teacher and priest, with a devoted wife, he also had a reputation as a womaniser. Da Ponte charmed everyone he met, pioneering the place of Italian music in

American life. But his self-assurance also excited mistrust. When the first Italian opera was performed in New York in 1825, he had the nerve to claim he had written it. He had, or so he said, known Mozart. Not to mention Casanova. Like the memoirs he had recently written to pay off more debts, the old man was full of tall stories... The many lives of Lorenzo da Ponte - librettist of Mozart's three great operas, *The Marriage of Figaro, Don Giovanni* and *Cosi Fan Tutte* - begin in Venice and linger in Vienna and London before winding up in New York, where today he lies buried in an unmarked grave in the world's largest cemetery. Holden's marvellous biography does justice at last to Mozart's collaborator.

## **Rob Riley**

An Aboriginal Leader's Quest for Justice

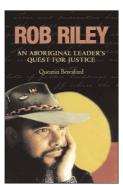
Quentin BERESFORD 256pp Pb \$39.95 Riley was widely regarded as one of the great Aboriginal leaders and activists of the modern era, immersed in the racial politics of a nation that needed (and needs) to deal with issues such as land rights, self-determination, native title, the justice system, deaths in custody and the tragedies of the Stolen Generations. As a 'moral protester', he felt he failed in the quest to change the status of indigenous people, and that the system failed him as well. Tragically, he committed suicide in 1996. Not just a biography of a

remarkable man, but also a history of race and Aboriginal politics.

# After Port Arthur

#### Personal Stories of Courage and Resilience Ten years on from the tragedy that shocked the nation Carol ALTMANN 320pp Tp \$29.95

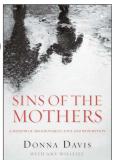
A beautiful day. A tranquil setting, despite its grim past. It was 28 April 1996, the day of the worst civilian massacre in history, when 35 innocent people were murdered at Port Arthur. All Australians reeled in shock at the news. But what happens to those involved once the headlines have faded and the TV cameras switched off? For those who witnessed the horror or lost loved ones, their lives were irrevocably changed and these very personal stories document their ongoing search to find peace and strength. A decade on, Altmann looks at how the people, the place, the killer and the whole country changed in the aftermath of this horrific massacre at one of Australia's most infamous historic landmarks.



## Sins of the Mothers

Donna DAVIS & Amy WILLESEE

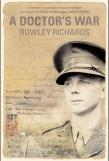
272pp Tp \$33.00 Little Lois Davis barely knew her mother. Placed in an orphanage at the age of three months, her childhood featured too many institutions and not enough nurturing. Determined that her past would not decide her future, she changed her name and, as Donna, became an international model and the mother of two beautiful children, attaining the financial security and love that Lois could only have dreamed of. But her happiness



was not to last. After a marriage break-up, she became involved with a charismatic young man who asked her to do the seemingly unthinkable - smuggle drugs into Australia from India. Emotionally vulnerable, she reluctantly agreed and found herself a criminal. Pregnant and alone, she would nearly have to pay the most terrible price of all - the loss of her children.

# A Doctor's War

Rowley RICHARDS 348pp Pb \$24.95 "I remember clearly the day my long-lost diary summary was returned to me. It was 15 February 1947, the fifth anniversary of the fall of Singapore. The events of the disastrous Malayan campaign and our surrender had been playing through my mind all day." After the end of WWII, Australia's Directorate of War Graves Services uncovered an extraordinary document in a bottle buried in a grave in Singapore. It was a summary of the secret diary of Dr Rowley



Richards, a POW and medical officer on the notorious Burma-Siam (Thailand) Railway. Richards, who was 23 when war broke out, witnessed the horror of camp life first-hand, treating fellow prisoners in the harsh conditions. In a series of diaries, he recorded the everyday brutality of the POW camps and also the courage, humour and mateship of his comrades. Just before being transferred to prison in Japan, he buried a summary of his contraband writings. Astonishingly, it was returned to him intact. Based on this diary summary and Richards' other wartime writing, this intensely compelling memoir of battle, imprisonment and survival tells a poignant story of hope and optimism in the face of great inhumanity.

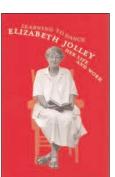
#### Before Leonard The Early Suitors of Virginia Woolf Sarah HALL

280pp Hb \$49.95

Hall looks at Virginia Woolf's 'unsuitable' early suitors, from the controversial biographer Lytton Strachey (who made, then quickly retracted, his marriage proposal) to the war poet and neo-pagan Rupert Brooke (who held skinny-dipping parties in the river at Grantchester). Woolf's work has frequently been seen against the backdrop of the Bloomsbury Group or her relationship with Vita Sackville-West, but the men considered here had an important impact on Woolf's life and work, and veiled portraits of most of them appear in her novels.

### Learning to Dance Elizabeth Jolley Her Life and Work

Caroline LURIE 320pp Hb \$39.95 Jolley is one of Australia's most significant and best-loved writers, delighting readers with her acute observation of the world, her wicked humour, her compassion and her honesty. This book brings together some of her most poignant short stories, essays and poems, including two formerly unpublished pieces. The recurring themes of her life and work are evident: the complex relationships within families;



homesickness and exile; intense love between women; the healing power of the land; the inevitability of loneliness; and the fragile nature of happiness. Together, these writings form something close to an autobiography, and are a celebration of Jolley's rich life and work.





ADIE

MOZART

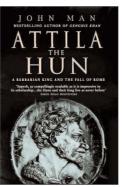
HOLDEN

STANI

## History Attila the Hun

John MAN 400pp Pb \$24.95

Attila the Hun has become a byword for barbarism, savagery and violence. This riveting biography reveals the man behind the myth. In the years 434-454 AD, the fate of Europe hung upon the actions of one man, Attila, king of the Huns. The decaying Roman Empire still stood astride the Western World, but it was threatened by a new force, the much-feared Barbarian hordes. It was Attila who united the Barbarian tribes into a single, amazingly effective army. His violent attacks against the



eastern and western halves of the Roman Empire earned him a reputation for mindless devastation and brought an end to Rome's pre-eminence in Europe. He was coarse, capricious, arrogant, ruthless and brilliant. An illiterate and predatory tribal chief, he had no interest in administration, but was a wily politician who, from his base in the grasslands of Hungary, used secretaries and ambassadors to bring him intelligence on his enemies. He was a leader whose unique qualities made him supreme among tribal leaders, but whose weaknesses ensured the collapse of his empire after his death. due May

### Scourge and Fire Savonarola and Renaissance Italy

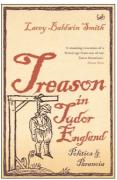
Lauro MARTINES 368pp Hb \$65.00 Although something of a cautionary tale, this is compelling reading. Girolamo Savonarola, a charismatic preacher of extraordinary power, was the most talked about man in late 15th century Italy. After the Medici fled into exile in 1494, the republic of Florence surged back to vigorous life. Speaking for God, Savonarola was swept into the forefront of politics to become the chief defender of the people's freedom. His thundering sermons in the Florence cathedral



called for the renewal of a corrupt Church and the purging of vile governments. He mingled the fervour of religion with the ardour of (republican) politics. Protected and revered by Florence's republicans, he spawned enemies on all sides, particularly among the rich and powerful. Excommunicated, he spurned the papal curse, until a palace revolution in Florence put him into the hands of his foes, who hanged him on charges of heresy, and then - to keep his remains from becoming relics - cast his body into a bonfire, sealing him to martyrdom for all time. Cara

### Treason in Tudor England **Politics and Paranoia**

Lacey Baldwin SMITH 352pp Pb \$30.00 This entertaining book examines the political conspiracies and plots within Tudor England from the perspective of the psychological and social impulses of 16th-century England. "Love no man, trust no man" - contemporary literature and drama reflected and reinforced this belief, as did the essentials of Tudor education. By looking at the behaviour of the flamboyant Robert Devereux (who bore all the hallmarks of paranoia) as a case study in political hysteria,



the author examines the ways in which insecurity in the midst of political and religious revolution was obsessive and self-perpetuating, producing throughout the kingdom a state of hysteria that was unique to the 16th century. Fascinating! due May Cara

### Coming in June

# Freedom Next Time

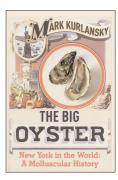
John PILGER 352pp Tp \$35.00 John Pilger is one of the world's pre-eminent investigative journalists and documentary filmmakers. Here he looks at five countries, in each of which a long struggle for freedom has taken place; in each the people, having shed blood and dreams, are still waiting.



### The Big Oyster New York in the World A Molluscular History

Mark KURLANSKY 320pp Hb \$35.00 Starting from the earliest evidence of Lenape oyster middens, discovered by explorer Henry Hudson, this charming gastronomic history reveals four centuries of culinary evolution and food trends in the city that never sleeps. When the Dutch arrived, the estuary of the lower Hudson contained 350 square miles of oyster beds, practically half the world's oysters. These huge

oyster stores contributed mightily to the mercantile

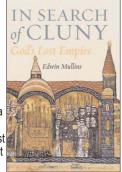


wealth and natural renown of New Amsterdam, then inherited by the British, who were crazy about oysters. While cheap, oysters appealed equally to the rich and poor, prompting famous establishments such as Downing's oyster cellar and Delmonico's. The exhaustion of the city's oyster beds and pollution by sewage effectively eclipsed the consumption of local oysters by the 1920s, yet the lowly oyster still promotes the health of the waterways by its natural filtering system, as well as indicating the purity of the water.

### In Search of Cluny God's Lost Empire

245pp Hb \$49.95 Edwin MULLINS Today, the abbey of Cluny is a feeble, vandalised shadow of its former glorious past. Once it wielded immense political power, backed by undoubted moral certainty and its abbots - who had built the place from a humble hunting lodge into the centre and capital of a

vast monastic empire - were among the most formidable of men. They were also among the greatest of medieval patrons, responsible for some of the finest architecture, sculpture, music and painting, as well as the greatest influences on the tradition of the



pilgrimage to Santiago. This finely written, extremely readable book traces the history of Cluny, its remarkable bequests to European civilisation, and its downfall as the glorification of God descended into grubby materialism. Highly recommended. Lindy

# Packer's Lunch

**Neil CHENOWETH** 368pp Hb \$45.00 The dark channels of money and power that flow beneath the surface of Australian society are perilous places. For years Graham Richardson, Trevor Kennedy and Rene Rivkin navigated these waters deftly with a little secret help from their offshore advisor. The exposure of their Swiss accounts uncovered a world of secret share trading going back decades by a much wider group of players. Chenoweth plots the twists and turns of the 1990s network wars with a deadly eye. His cutting account ranges from rebirthing One. Tel's Jodee Rich to Richo's

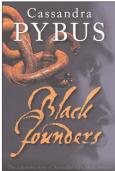


Excellent Adventure. It moves from the stories behind the AMP power struggle to the secrets of the Fairfax takeover. There is inept manoeuvring in the shrubbery, unpleasantness at The Toaster, Macquarie Bankers rampant and private detectives behaving badly. It's not pretty. This sweeping narrative tells the wider story of a network and a generation fighting for its very survival. It pits the ageing street fighters of the 1980s against a new breed of uber-fund managers and McKinsey management consultants. This is a story of how power works in Australia and of the power players who have dominated our past and continue to shape our future.

# **Black Founders**

### The Unknown Story of Australia's First Black Settlers

Cassandra PYBUS 232pp Pb \$39.95 This compelling new book reveals that black convicts were among our First Fleet settlers, a fact that profoundly complicates our understanding of race relations in early colonial Australia. Most of these black founders were originally slaves from America who had sought freedom with the British during the American Revolution, only to find themselves abandoned and unemployed in England when the war was over.



# **ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP**

# History

## Failed States

# The Abuse of Power and the Assault on Democracy

Noam CHOMSKY 328pp Pb \$24.95 Chomsky does not disappoint in this fierce and biting critique of the global superpower pretending to be the arbiter of international democracy, while undermining the institution on its own soil. A failed state, says Chomsky, is one that cannot - or will not - protect its citizens from violence and destructive forces (think environmental and nuclear) and which thinks

itself above domestic and international laws and The above of power and the assault on democracy agreements (hello UN Charter, Geneva Conventions and Kyoto Protocol). Analysing both foreign and domestic US policy, this is a forceful and focused book. Agree with him or not, Chomsky is nevertheless an intellectual powerhouse and his arguments are essential reading, whether to debunk his views or to gain strength for your own...

### History on Trial My Day in Court with David Irving

Deborah LIPSTADT 346pp Tp \$27.95 By 1995, two years after the publication of her **Denying the Holocaust** (Pb \$32.95), Lipstadt thought her scholarly work on Holocaust denial was done. Then came the letter from Penguin advising her that she was being sued for libel by David Irving. This book is her story of the five years she spent defending herself. It is a fascinating mixture of history, law and memoir woven into a narrative that never flags for a moment. She writes candidly about her feelings

and the people involved in her case. If the day of the verdict is the most joyous part of the book, her visit with the defence team to Auschwitz is probably the most moving.

### Among the Dead Cities Was the Allied Bombing of Civilians in WWII a Necessity or a Crime?

A C GRAYLING 361pp Hb \$49.95 There have been many histories of the Allied bombing campaigns against the cities of Germany and Japan, but this book is different. Written by a leading philosopher (**The Meaning of Things** Pb \$21.95), it looks at the morality of the decisions by the Allies to target civilian populations of these countries – decisions that cost the lives of 800,000 men, women and children. Was it justified then? Would it be justified today? Dave

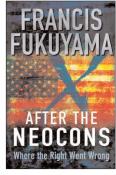
### The Last Days of Henry VIII Robert HUTCHINSON

Henry VIII "has no respect or fear of anyone in this world", wrote the Spanish ambassador to his court. He ruled England with Stalinist ruthlessness, executing (at a conservative estimate) 150,000 people from a population of less than 3 million. But after 35 years in power, he was a bloated, hideously obese, black-humoured old man, rarely seen in public. He had striven all his life to ensure the survival of his dynasty by siring legitimate sons, yet his only male heir was eight-year-old Prince Edward. It was increasingly obvious that when Henry died, real power in England would be exercised by a regent. The prospect of that prize spurred the rival court factions into deadly conflict. Robert Hutchinson

has spent several years in original archival research and advances a genuinely new theory of Henry's medical history and the cause of his death, having unearthed some fabulous eyewitness material and papers from death warrants, confessions and even love letters between Katherine Parr and the Lord High Admiral.

After the Neocons Where the Right Wing Went Wrong

Francis FUKUYAMA 226pp Hb \$35.00 Attacking the right-wing policymakers with whom he had previously associated, Fukuyama argues that the Bush administration, in the war in Iraq, has wrongly applied the principles of neoconservatism - a philosophy that is vital to the arguments about Iraq, but rarely explored, and whose history he carefully untangles. He explains why the US did not realise how much foreign hostility there would be towards the war, or how difficult reconstruction would be, and connects the



problems in Iraq to wider patterns that include recent revolutions in Eastern Europe. Showing that there is no established tradition in international relations theory that can help guide US foreign policy today, Fukuyama then outlines a new approach. This emphasises the importance of solving the problem of development and of creating multiple international institutions and the need to avoid preventive war.

## **Contesting the Crusades**

Norman HOUSLEY

216pp Pb \$49.95

Drawing on 30 years' experience, Housley steers readers through the key historical debates. Almost every aspect of the long and complex history of crusading has been the subject of energetic discussion, and Housley's account addresses issues ranging from the definition of 'crusade', to the origins and character of the First Crusade, to problems explaining and interpreting the later crusades. He also reviews two debates relating to the entire crusading experience: the intentions and motivations of the crusaders; and what the consequences of crusading were for European society and government in the Middle Ages, and for the relationship between Catholic Christianity and other faiths.

## The Colosseum

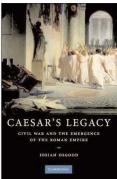
#### Keith HOPKINS & Mary BEARD

224pp Pb \$26.95

The Colosseum has long been Rome's most famous and most visited monument. Two leading ancient historians tell the story of Rome's greatest arena: how it was built; the gladiatorial and other games that were held there; the training of the gladiators; the audiences who revelled in the games; the emperors who staged them; the critics; and the strange after story - the Colosseum has been fort, store, church and glue factory. Historical crime writer Lindsay Davis says, "This welcome and well written book reassess myths, politely debunks many misconceptions about what we know - and don't know - to put this fabulous monument in context from its founding to the present."

### Caesar's Legacy Civil War and the Emergence of the Roman Empire

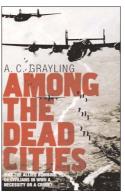
Josiah OSGOOD 452pp Pb \$49.95 In April 44 BC, 18-year-old Gaius Octavius landed in Italy and launched his takeover of the Roman world. Defeating first Caesar's assassins, then the son of Pompey the Great, and finally Antony and the Egyptian queen Cleopatra, he dismantled the old Republic, took on the new name 'Augustus', and ruled 40 years more with his equally remarkable wife,



Livia. This book retells the gripping story of his rise to power by focusing on how the bloody civil wars that he and his soldiers fought transformed the lives of men and women throughout the Mediterranean world and beyond.

### Sense and Nonsense in Australian History John HIRST 400pp Tp \$34.95

This collection of essays makes up a history of Australia from convict society to stalled republic. Although a self-proclaimed conservative, Hirst's work has received high praise from historians ranging from Don Watson to Stuart Macinytre. This book collects key pieces on convict society, the pioneer legend, Australian egalitarianism, the republican movement and more. It also contains celebrated critiques of Geoffrey Blainey, narrowly nationalistic history, Aboriginal policy and multiculturalism, as well as a substantial new essay on *The History Wars*.



336pp Pb \$26.95

HELAST

DAYS OF

IENRY



### From the Academic Presses

In Eye for an Eye (278pp Hb \$49.95), William Miller analyses the law of the talion - an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth - and presents an original meditation on the concept of 'pay back'. His unique theory of justice offers redemption through retaliation, espousing the view that revenge requires a deep commitment to balance in order to get even in a strict, but fair, manner.

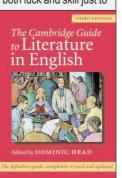
Peter Russell's Recognising Aboriginal Title (470pp Pb \$46.95) is an

in-depth account of the Mabo case. It considers its background in colonial and Australian history, and the events that led up to the case, including the decade of litigation preceding the High Court's final decision.

Al Qaeda Now (282pp Pb \$37.95) edited by Karen Greenberg is a valuable synopsis of current knowledge on Al Qaeda and the policies in place to counter threats of future terrorist attacks. The papers in this book contribute to understanding how Al Qaeda has evolved from a movement to an ideology, what influence it has on Middle East stability and what continued threat it is to the US, Europe and other areas of the world

In Gang of One (279pp Hb \$59.95), Fan Shen tells a coming-of-age story with a difference. Shen was a brand-new Red Guard during China's Cultural Revolution and he recounts his amazing adventures during those bizarre times, when you needed both luck and skill just to survive.

The illustrated and fully updated 3rd edition of The Cambridge Guide to Literature in English (1,275pp Hb \$75) edited by Dominic Head is the most authoritative and international survey of world literature in English. It covers everything from Old English to contemporary writing from all over the English-speaking world and includes more than 280 new author entries, most of them for living authors.



Now republished with a new

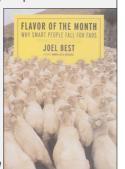
introduction, The Archibald Paradox (336pp Pb \$24.95) is a remarkable study that is part biography, part history and part critical reading. Sylvia Lawson provides a complex, contradictory and hopeful map of the legendary Australia of the 1880s and 1890s.

The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Constantine (488pp Pb \$59.95) edited by Noel Lenski offers students a comprehensive, one-volume survey of this pivotal emperor and his times. Richly illustrated and designed as a readable survey accessible to all audiences, it also achieves a level of scholarly sophistication and a freshness of interpretation that will be welcomed by experts.

Matthew Levitt's Hamas: Politics, Charity and Terrorism in the Service of Jihad (336pp Hb \$49.95) provides the most fully researched assessment of Hamas ever written. The author demolishes the notion that the military, political and social wings of Hamas are distinct from one another, and catalogues the alarming extent to which the organisation's political and social welfare leaders support terror.

Blacked Out (334pp Hb \$55.00) by Alasdair Roberts examines the evolution of the move toward openness in government. It looks at how technology has aided the disclosure and dissemination of information. The author tackles the question of whether the drive for transparency has stemmed the desire for government secrecy and discusses how many governments ignore or frustrate the legal requirements for the release of key documents.

Flavor of the Month (224pp Hb \$43.00) by Joel Best explores the range of institutional fads, analyses the features of our culture that foster them and identifies the major stages of the fad cycle - emerging, surging and purging. Deconstructing the ways this system plays into our notions of reinvention, progress and perfectibility, it examines the causes and consequences of fads and suggests ways of fad-proofing our institutions. Dave

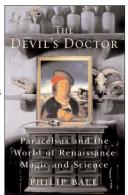


### Science The Devil's Doctor

#### Paracelsus and the World of Renaissance **Magic and Science**

Philip BALL 448pp Hb \$65.00 Philip Theophrastus Aureolus Bombastus von Hohenheim - known to later ages as Paracelsus - stands on the borderline between medieval and modern; a name that is familiar but a man who has been hard to perceive or understand. Contemporary of Luther, enemy of established medicine, scourge of the universities ("at

all the German schools you cannot learn as much as at the Frankfurt Fair"), army surgeon and alchemist, myths about him - from his treating diseases from beyond the grave in mid 19th century Salzburg to his Faustian



bargain with the devil to regain his youth - have been far more lasting than his actual story. Even during his lifetime, he was rumoured to travel with a magical white horse and to store the elixir of life in the pommel of his sword. But who was Paracelsus and what did he really believe and practice? Although Paracelsus has been seen as both a charlatan and as a founder of modern science, Ball reveals a more richly complex man - who used his eyes and ears to learn from nature how to heal, and who wrote influential books on medicine, surgery, alchemy and theology while living a drunken, combative, vagabond life. Above all, he reveals a man who was a product of his time an age of great change in which the church was divided and the classics were rediscovered - and whose bringing together of the seemingly diverse disciplines of alchemy and biology signalled the beginning of the age of rationalism.

### Breaking the Spell **Religion as a Natural Phenomenon**

Daniel DENNETT

448pp Hb \$59.95

Few forces in the world are as potent as religion - it comforts people in their suffering and inspires them to both magnificent and terrible deeds. In this provocative and timely book, Daniel Dennett seeks to uncover the origins of this power, and discusses why and how different faiths have commanded allegiance and shaped so many lives. He does not contest these beliefs. Rather, he argues passionately for the need to understand this multifaceted phenomenon, and he offers a truly original and comprehensive explanation for religion. What was the psychological and cultural soil in which it first took root? How did it evolve? Is it the product of blind evolutionary instinct or of rational choice? Dennett shows how these ideas could have spread from individual superstitions, via shamanism and the early wild' strains of religion to today's institutionalised systems.

### Science Magazine's State of the Planet 2006-2007

Donald KENNEDY (ed)

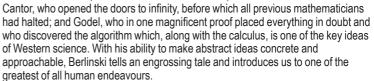
200pp Pb \$33.90

Science is one of the most authoritative scientific journals in the world. Its biennial guides to environmental issues are essential reading for anyone who wishes to remain informed of current knowledge on such challenges as population growth, climate change science, commons management, the state of world fisheries, water and energy. Leading scientists and researchers give a clear and accessible overview of these and other topics. Suitable for any interested reader, neither too academic nor too simplified. due Mav

### Infinite Ascent A Short History of Mathematics

David BERLINSKI 192pp Hb \$39.95 From the Renaissance onwards, mathematics has had a near-mystical status. If the pragmatic Romans, and Christian Europe, did not share the Greeks' fascination with numbers and geometrical shapes, the introduction of Arabic numerals, and the infinite Greek mathematical discoveries kept alive by Arabic scholars, set off a new interest in mathematics which has been with us ever since. Berlinski focuses on the key moments in mathematical history, and the men behind them. Here are Pythagoras, intoxicated by the mystical significance of numbers; DAVID BERLINSKI

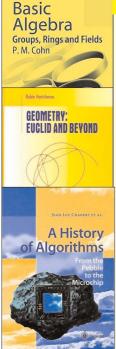
Euclid, who gave the world the very idea of a proof; Leibniz and Newton, co-discoverers of the calculus;



## **ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP**

a short history of mathematics

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# SPRINGER YELLOW SALE

Look out for the following Springer Verlag titles with the distinctive yellow covers in the Mathematics section! This is a selection of titles drastically reduced until 31 July or until stock lasts. For a full list of sale titles go to www.abbeys.com.au and follow the prompts to the Springer Yellow Sale.

	Combinational Theory M AIGNER	Pb	\$89.95	\$39.95
	Ordinary Differential Equations VARNOLD	Pb	\$99.95	\$49.95
	A Textbook of Graph Theory R BALKRISHNAN	Hb	\$121.50	\$59.95
	Panoramic View of Riemannian Geometry Marcel BERGER	Hb	\$116.95	\$59.95
	Introduction to the Geometry of Numbers J W S CASSELS	Pb	\$89.95	\$39.95
	A History of Algorithms: From the Pebble to the Microchip Jean-Luc CHABER	RT Pb	\$114.95	\$69.95
	Basic Algebra: Groups, Rings and Fields P M COHN	Pb	\$147.95	\$74.95
	Finite Geometrics P DEMBROWSKI	Pb	\$69.95	\$39.95
	Mathematics: The Music of Reason J DIEUDONNE	Hb	\$89.95	\$39.95
	Algebraic Topology: A First Course W FULTON	Pb	\$79.95	\$39.95
	Geometry: Euclid and Beyond R HARSTHORNE	Hb	\$106.95	\$54.95
	Number Theory H HASSE	Pb	\$76.95	\$39.95
	Methods of Mathematical Finance I KARATZAS	Hb	\$126.95	\$59.95
	A Course in Number Theory and Cryptography Neal KORBLITZ	Hb	\$101.95	\$49.95
	Combinational Group Theory R C LYNDON & Pa	ul SCHUPP Pb	\$89.95	\$39.95
-	Basic Number Theory Andre WEIL	Pb	\$69.95	\$39.95
-	Introduction to Applied Nonlinear Dynamical Systems and Chaos Stephen WIGGINS	S Hb	\$139.95	\$69.95
	Algebraic Surfaces O ZARISKI	Spiral	\$69.95	\$39.95

#### Electric Universe David BODANIS

For centuries, electricity was viewed as little more than a curious property of certain substances that sparked when rubbed. Then, in the 1790s, Alessandro Volta began the scientific investigation that ignited an explosion of knowledge and invention, transforming our world. The force that once seemed inconsequential was revealed to be responsible for everything from the structure of the atom to the functioning of our brains. A superb

storyteller, Bodanis weaves tales of romance, divine inspiration and fraud through lucid accounts of scientific breakthrough. The great discoverers come to life in all their brilliance and idiosyncrasy, including the visionary Michael Faraday, who struggled against the prejudices of the British class system, and Alexander Graham Bell, driven to invent by his love for a young deaf student. From the cold waters of the Atlantic to the streets of Hamburg during a World War II firestorm and the interior of the human body, this is a mesmerising journey of discovery by a master science writer.

### The Australian Miracle An Innovative Nation Revisited

Thomas BARLOW 228pp Pb \$25.00 In Australia, we believe we are clever - an innately inventive and original people. But what if we're not guite as original as we think we are? What if the real strengths of our country lie in imitation: in the clever use of technology and in our ability to profit from other people's creativity? 100 years ago, an open and adaptive attitude towards technology made Australia the

wealthiest society in the world. Today, this same attitude is transforming our nation and creating unexpected opportunities for Australia's inventors, discoverers and entrepreneurs. Better yet, it can make us rich again. If you're tired of the myths that Australia is not a clever country, that we're suffering a brain drain, and that all our best ideas end up overseas, this book will bust them.



320pp Pb \$24.95

Electric

Universe

David Bodanis

## **Briefly Noted...**

Apollo: The Definitive Sourcebook (633pp Pb \$79.95) by Richard Orloff and David Harland is a great reference book for hardcore spaceflight buffs, with all the details of each mission in the one book. If you want to know that the Apollo 12 CSM docked with the LM/S-IVB at 3hrs 26min 53.3secs GET, then this book is for you!

Apollo

The Last Man Who Knew Everything (288pp Hb \$39.95) by Andrew Robinson is a biography of the amazing polymath Thomas Young. This is the man who first demonstrated the interference of light, proving that light is a wave, not a stream of corpuscles, as

maintained by Newton. He is also the man who showed how the eye focuses and proposed the three-colour theory of vision. He also did crucial work in deciphering the Rosetta Stone.

Chances Are... (319pp Hb \$58) by Michael and Ellen Kaplan is a very accessible guide to probability and statistics - two disciplines that underpin almost every modern science and much of our daily lives. It tells the story of the search for tools to help us deal with seemingly random blows of disaster, disease and injustice.

In Galapagos (221pp Pb \$43), John Kricher presents a detailed natural history of this spectacular archipelago. He looks at the amazing diversity of life found there and explains the fascinating geology of these remote islands, interspersing his narrative with Darwin's adventures there in 1835.

Densey Clyne's Wildlife of Australia (144pp Pb \$24.95) contains 30 fascinating tales of various animals and environments that are characters in the story of Australian natural history. The stories are complemented by beautiful colour photographs, making this a wonderful book for anyone with an interest in Australian natural history, from children to grandparents.

The Australian Miracle: An Innovative Nation Revisited (262pp Pb \$25) by Thomas Barlow challenges the way we have long thought about Australian science and technology.

Don't You Have Time to Think? (485pp Pb \$26.95) collects hundreds of Richard Feynman's witty, eccentric and moving letters to his family, friends, critics, colleagues and devoted fans around the world. From down-to-earth advice for eager students to discussions of time travel, and from blunt rebuttals given to journalists to poignant exchanges with his first wife as she suffered from tuberculosis, we are introduced to a unique person whose wisdom and lust for life inspired all those who were fortunate enough to know him.



Charles Darwin, Geologist (485pp Hb \$80.00) by Sandra Herbert is the definitive book about Darwin's work in geology. It reveals the important part geology played in Darwin's intellectual life, from his boyhood days to his

fieldwork during the voyage of the Beagle. The World of Gerard Mercator (291pp Pb \$24.95) by Andre Taylor tells how Mercator became one of the leading thinkers of his time and how he changed forever the way we view the world. Although he was imprisoned and threatened with death and torture, his work was sought after by emperors, princes and scholars. This is a fascinating journey into the history of mapmaking and how one man revolutionised it, without ever boarding a ship! Dave



was

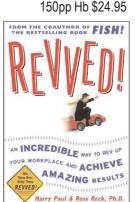
now

### Revved!

# An Incredible Way to Rev up Your Workplace and Achieve Amazing Results

Harry PAUL & Ross RECK

What happens when you, as a manager, discover that you are the cause of poor performance? This book reveals the techniques that will help you overcome common behavioural obstacles and reach ever-increasing levels of success in today's workplace. These techniques include ways to engage employees, control negative emotions, and develop a contagious positive attitude that will spread through your company. This book tells the story of Katie, a department head at MedSol who, with the help of a popular Chicago radio psychologist, learns how to reconnect emotionally with her people and turn a disorganised, undermotivated department into a supercharged team of go-getters. In the process, Katie also learns how to



word by Helen Garner

revitalise both her personal and professional life, and plan new avenues to greater success.

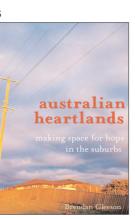
# Lost

#### **Illegal Abortion Stories**

Jo WAINER (editor) 224pp Pb \$23.95 Here for the first time are edited transcripts of women who had illegal abortions dating from the 1930s in Australia. These stories offer real insight into what women's lives were like; their working lives; the quality of their relationships with men: the medical establishment and prevailing social attitudes. This collection is both raw and graphic with its power lying in the first person narratives. It is a direct intervention into the contemporary political debate surrounding abortions in Australia, the UK and America.

#### Australian Heartlands Making Space for Hope in the Suburbs

Brendan GLEESON 224pp Pb \$24.95 Somehow, there is still an image of Australians being bushies, but we have always been one of the most urbanised of societies. This book, winner of the inaugural *Iremonger Award for Writing on Public Issues*, examines the political, social, economic and environmental trends that shape our urban communities and their role in our national life. It argues that cities - and more essentially, suburbs - have to be recognised as our heartlands. A passionate, provocative book, written by the Professor of Urban Policy, Griffith University, but thoroughly accessible to the non-academic reader.



# Egyptian Art in the Nicholson Museum, Sydney

Karen SOWADA & Boyo OKINGA (eds) 384pp Hb \$148.00 The Nicholson Museum, University of Sydney, Australia's largest collection of Egyptian antiquities, has recently undergone an exciting refurbishment and many objects are now on display for the first time. This beautifully produced new volume showcases the fascinating and varied exhibits in the museum with 25 articles by leading Australian and international scholars. Although this is a scholarly work, it will also appeal to serious 'amateur egyptologists' as well. The Museum is open Monday to Friday, 10am - 4.30pm, admission is free, www.usyd.edu.au/nicholson. Anthoulla

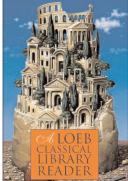


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#### How Language Works How Babies Babble, Words Change Meaning and Languages Live or Die

David CRYSTAL 512 pp Hb \$45.00 In this fascinating survey of everything from how sounds become speech to how names work, Crystal answers every question you might ever have had about the nuts and bolts of language in his usual highly illuminating way. Along the way we find out about eyebrow flashes, whistling languages, how parents teach their children to speak, how politeness travels across languages and how the way we talk shows not just how old we are but where we're from and even who we want to be.



### Waltzing Again Selected Conversations with Margaret Atwood

Earl INGERSOLL (editor)

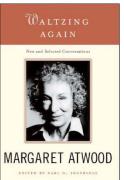
This gathering of 21 interviews with Atwood covers a broad spectrum of topics. Beginning with Graeme Gibson's *Dissecting the Way a Writer Works* (1972), the conversations provide a forum for Atwood to talk about her own work, her career as a writer, feminism, and Canadian cultural nationalism, and to refute the autobiographical fallacy. These conversations offer what Ingersoll calls "a kind of biography of Margaret Atwood - the only kind of biography she is likely to sanction." Enlivened by Atwood's unfailing sense of humour, the interviews present an invaluable view of a distinguished contemporary writer at work. *due May* 

# Why Truth Matters

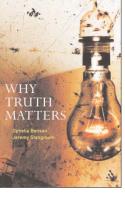
Ophelia BENSON & Jeremy STANGROOM A witty and eloquent debunking, grounded in

A witty and eloquent debunking, grounded in solid philosophical scholarship, of the 'fashionable nonsense' that pervades modern culture and academia. Truth has always been a central preoccupation of philosophy in all its forms and traditions. However, in the late 20th century truth became suddenly rather unfashionable. The precedence given to assorted political and ideological agendas, along with the rise of relativism, postmodernism and pseudoscience in academia, led to a decline both of truth as a serious subject, and an intellectual tradition that began with the Enlightenment. This is a timely, incisive and entertaining look at how and why modern

thought and culture lost sight of the importance of truth. It is also an eloquent and inspiring argument for restoring truth to its rightful place.



250pp Pb \$26.95



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ranges far both geographically and historically; it features unparalleled coverage of Africa, Asia, the Islamic world, Native North America, the Pacific and Aboriginal Australia, Pre-Columbian America, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, the Ancient Near East, and Ancient Rome.

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### Jack ZIPES (editor)

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# The Oxford English Dictionary

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# **Children's**

# Victory

Susan CÓOPER 304pp Hb \$27.95 Molly, 11, has been uprooted from London to live in Connecticut, most unhappily. On a visit to a bookshop, she is drawn to a biography on Nelson; she finds a scrap of material and a note saying it came from Nelson's flag. She also starts to have flashes from 200 years ago. Sam, 11, has been pressganged, and finds himself a ship boy on HMS Victory. Their stories are interwoven; Sam's particularly is vivid and full of fine details, which



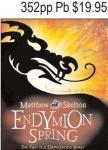
reviewed by Lindy Jones

make a great way of introducing history to the reader. Upper primary. due May

# Endymion Spring

Matthew SKELTON

Blake is fairly annoyed. His mother has taken him and his sister, Duck, to stuffy old Oxford while she is doing research. Dad is half the world away and Blake is lonely. When a book attacks his fingers in a library, he is launched on a major adventure to track down the Last Book, full of all the knowledge of the world. In 15th century Germany, young Endymion is apprenticed to Johannes Gutenburg, and he comes into possession of an amazing book, formed from the scales of a dragon. Quite fast-



paced, if a bit long, but an interesting concept. Upper primary. due May

# Cyrano

Geraldine McCAUGHREAN

167pp Hb \$26.95

The story of Cyranode Bergerac-poet, philosopher, gallant soldier and lover - is here retold in great style and panache, as befits our large-nosed hero. A man so noble, he helps another, less deserving, man to woo the object of his desire, fair Roxane. A glorious retelling, which will delight readers new to the story or already familiar with it.



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delightful illustrations.

Margaret WILD & Janine DAWSON 32pp Hb \$24.95 A lovely little story for pre-schoolers! Bobbie is a particularly athletic kangaroo, who can hop and skip and jump and bounce, but can't do the splits. Her friends take turns in consoling her, but she minds, a lot, that there is something she can't quite do. After plenty of practise, though, she finally learns how to do the splits perfectly. Simple but sweet, with

# Don't Call Me Ishmael

Michael Gerard BAUER 277pp Pb \$16.95 When you are inflicted with a name that can be twisted into various inventive epithets and go to a private school, adolescence can be a bit tough. Ishmael Leseur is 14 and Grade 9 becomes most interesting when a new boy appears. James Scobie is weird looking, brilliant - and fearless, thanks to an operation which removed a brain tumour and his sense of fear. He persuades Ishmael to join the debating team, to stand up for himself and ultimately, that he is a good friend. This novel had some of the funniest scenes I have read in ages, while still dealing with some serious issues, and is a better read than Running Man (Pb \$18.95) which won Bauer the 2005 CBCA Book of the Year.

Are you one of the many people who enjoyed Kai Meyer's The Flowing Queen last year? Well then, you will be very pleased to hear The Stone Light (both Pb \$14.95) will be released in July! It is every bit as inventive and thrilling as the first one. Preorder before 30 June and you'll be in the running for a free copy of both titles!



### www.abbeys.com.au

### News from Eve Abbey

The shortlist for the 2006 *Miles Franklin Award* is now public (see page 1), so if you think you know which title will be announced the winner at this year's awards night, simply spend \$50 at Abbey's and go in the draw to win two tickets to the 2007 *Miles Franklin Award* dinner in Sydney next year (travel costs excluded). The first correct entry drawn on 23 June will win the prize.

I was pleased to see the arrival of the mass market edition of a book which was a serious contender for last year's *Miles Franklin Award*. This is Steven Carroll's **The Gift of Speed** (\$22.95 Pb 348pp with an additional 15pp of criticism and insights in a P.S. at the back of the book). This is a wonderfully evocative description of life in a new Melbourne suburb in the summer of 1960-61 when the West Indies cricket team was on tour enthralling the country. It is a deceptively simple book, languidly describing the big issues in



ordinary life. It is a sequel to **The Art of the Engine Driver** (\$22.95 Pb). You don't have to read the two books in tandem, but you will enjoy them more if you do. I think Steven Carroll is our John Updike.

The other great news is that Geraldine Brooks won the *Pulitzer Prize* last month for her book **March** (\$22.95 Pb 346pp), about an idealistic abolitionist who serves as a Chaplain for the Union Cause in the American Civil War. Like the Steven Carroll book, this is published by Harper Perennial and also has an interesting P.S. at the back with insights about the story and notes describing the author's other books, **Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague** (\$22.95 Pb), **Foreign Correspondence: A Pen Pal's Journey from Down Under to All Over** (\$24.95 Pb, or 2 cassettes \$21.95) and **Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women** (\$23.95 Pb). All wonderful books!

No doubt you've heard of 'sick building syndrome'. There is now a more worrying condition. I've noticed a building in Clarence Street, offering space to let, which is described as "the most *envious* building in Sydney". I think the copywriters for this agent have not been paying attention to the very many books on word usage filling the shelves of bookshops this past year. Perhaps they should consult **The Complete Idiot's Guide to Copywriters' Words and Phrases** by Katy Kleidermacher (\$26.95 Pb 325pp incl index) or **Writing Copy for Dummies** by Johnathan Kranz (\$39.95 Pb 362pp), both in our Writing and Publishing section upstairs. Meanwhile, that building must have a headache from constant frowning.

Here is a small selection of some other 'wordy' books on our shelves.

**Between You and I: A Little Book of Bad English** by James Cochrane (\$19.95 Pb 154pp). A good example in this book of 'real estate English' is "sort after", as in "sought after"! Also included is George Orwell's 1946 essay, Politics and the English Language, so if you're a fan of Orwell, this book could be a special addition to your collection.

Advising on appropriate usage is Faux Pas?: A No-Nonsense Guide to Words and Phrases from Other Languages (as used in English) by Philip Gooden (\$29.95 Hb 231pp incl index, plus some lovely other treats such as a Pretentiousness Index). It's ok to talk about "yurts", but a bit pretentious to actually build one and sit inside it.

In Linguistics, there is a terrific big paperback which might amuse people who are a little tired of crossword puzzles. This is **1,500 Words in 15 Minutes a Day** (\$19.95 Pb 430pp), which contains quizzes and exercises for vocabulary-building. It's a bit like being back at school and lots of fun.

We mustn't forget Don Watson's bestsellers, **Death Sentence: The Decay** of Public Language (\$22.95 Pb 197pp) or **Watson's Dictionary of Weasel Words** (\$23.95 Pb 408pp). I just love that phrase "weasel word". Tyrants cannot do without them!

Ruth Wajnryb has a great line of books about words, including FUNKtionary: A Cheeky Collection of Contemporary Words (\$24.95 Pb 202pp, plus 2 pages of internet links), Away with Words: A Frolic Through the Landscape of Language (\$27.95 Pb 328pp) and Language Most Foul (\$22.95 Pb 230pp), a look at the power of words to shock and communicate deep emotions. A terrific essay full of interesting and amusing anecdotes.

Have you have heard of the website www.mavensword.com? The best of the Mavens' postings are now gathered in a book, **The Mavens' Word of the Day Collection: Word and Phrase Origins from Akimbo to Zydeco** (\$36.95 Tp 344pp incl index). It's always fascinating to learn about the origins and usage of words.

A really intriguing dictionary is **One-Letter Words: A Dictionary** by Craig Conley (\$27.95 Hb 232pp). You would be surprised how many times a single letter is used as a word. Conley has managed to find at least one example for every letter in the alphabet. X was easy, because of course we use Xs for kisses at the bottom of a letter, but many more are found. Dictionary addicts must have this one.

Also in Writing and Publishing is a boxed set, **Writer's Reference Pack**, from Oxford University Press containing new editions of three famous books on editorial style - **The New Hart's Rules: The Handbook of Style for Writers and Editors**, **The New Oxford Spelling Dictionary** (for word division and questionable spelling) and **The New Oxford Dictionary for Writers and Editors**. All hardbacks, this set is excellent value at only \$95.

Since West Papua has been in the news, I set out to find something about this island, but no luck! I remember that, years ago, the revered travel writer Norman Lewis wrote a scary piece about the Freeport Mine, I think in his Empire of the East (now out of print). I did find some unusual titles from Pandanus Books, the publishing arm of the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at Canberra University. A large and impressive book is **Bougainville Before the Conflict** edited by Regan and Griffin (\$85 Hb 566pp incl index). Also Island Ministers: Indigenous Leadership in 19th Century **Pacific Islands Christianity** by Raeburn Lange (\$34.95 Pb 435pp incl index) and Lachlan Strahan's Day of Reckoning (\$34.95 Pb 396pp incl index), about the break-up of the Dutch Empire in 1948, and The Changing South Pacific: Identities and Transformations edited by Tcherkezoff & Douaire-Marsaudo (\$34.95 Pb 336pp). Find Pacific History above Aboriginal Studies, next to Australian History.

In the Theatre Studies section I found a very, very large paperback from Academy Editions of Australian Literature, **Australian Plays for the Colonial Stage 1834-1899** edited by Richard Fotheringham (\$80 732pp), containing 9 plays plus introductions and analysis.

I had a friend who was a serious collector of Persian carpets, so I took home a book which sold very well from our last Christmas catalogue. This has the nice title of **The Root of Wild Madder: Chasing the History, Mystery and Lore of the Persian Carpet** by Brian Murphy (\$39.95 Hb 296pp, incl a very interesting bibliography). This is a lovely production. I've shifted it from Middle East Studies to Travel Literature because it is such a personal and enthusiastic story about the weavers, tradesmen and bazaar-keepers.



Tim Mackintosh-Smith, who lives in Yemen and won the *Thomas Cook Travel Book Award* for **Yemen: Travels in Dictionary Land**, has now completed his second book based on the travels of the legendary Arab traveller, Ibn Battutah. The first was **Travels with a Tangerine** and now we have **The Hall of a Thousand Columns** (\$27 Pb 333pp incl index), which takes him through India in the footsteps of "IB". (He has become so familiar with his hero that he only refers to him by his initials). In Travel Literature, I found an edition of **The Travels of Ibn Battutah** translated by Mackintosh-Smith for \$25, but also found in Medieval History a Dover edition translated by Rev Samuel Lee for \$37, which looks more scholarly (in that it contains many quotations in Arabic!)

When I was a schoolgirl during WWII, my family received photographs of the Battle of Monte Cassino from a New Zealand soldier involved in that battle, so I was interested to see the recent documentary on SBS. You can find Mathew Parker's book, **Monte Cassino: The Story of the Hardest Fought Battle of WWII** (\$24.95 Pb 455pp), in Twentieth Century History, or in Audio (cassettes \$42.95, CD \$46.95). I shrank to read that bombing Monte Cassino was equivalent to bombing Westminster Abbey.

I know many people, as well as myself, have enjoyed the two books by Patrice

Newell about her biodynamic farm in the Hunter Valley. These are now complemented by a beautiful book containing photographs by Simon Griffiths and Travis Peake, illustrating Ms Newell's journal notes about the land and its uses. It is called **Ten Thousand Acres: A Love Story** (\$49.95 Hb over 150pp, with the last 6 pages showing lists of the birds and flora found on the Elmswood property). This would make a very nice present for someone. Find it in Australian Biography.



Take care,

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- Gilead by Marilynne Robinson (Pb \$24.95)
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- 4 Kafka on the Shore by Haruki Murakami (Pb \$24.95)
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The World is Flat: The Globalised World in the Twenty-First Century by Thomas Friedman \$26.95 The beginning of this century will be remembered, Friedman argues, not for military conflicts or political events, but for a whole new age of globalisation a 'flattening' of the world. The explosion of advanced technologies now means that suddenly knowledge pools and resources have connected all over the planet, levelling the playing field as never before, so that each of us is potentially an equal and competitor of the other. Friedman brilliantly demystifies the exciting, often bewildering, global scene unfolding before our eyes, one which we sense but barely yet understand.

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The Atlantic slave trade was one of the largest and most elaborate maritime and commercial ventures. Between 1492 and about 1870, 10 million or more black slaves were carried from Africa to one port or another of the Americas. Thomas follows the development of this massive shift of human lives across the centuries until the slave trade's abolition in the late 19th century.

#### Human Cargo by Carol Moorehead \$24.95

Moorehead has visited war zones, camps and prisons from Guinea and Afghanistan to Texas and Italy. She has interviewed emigration officials and members of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Geneva while investigating the fates of the 17 million people currently displaced from their homes.

#### The Last Duel by Eric Jager \$23.95

In 1386, a few days after Christmas, a massive crowd gathered at a Paris monastery to watch the two men fight a duel to the death - a trial by combat meant to 'prove' which man's cause was right in God's sight. The dramatic true story of the knight, the squire, and the lady unfolds during the tumultuous 14th century, a time of war, plague, and anarchy, as well as of honour, chivalry, and courtly love.

#### Mary Queen of Scots by Retha Warnicke \$32.00

A highly readable and fascinating study, which pours fresh light on the much-debated life of a central figure of the 16th century, providing a new interpretation of Mary Stuart's impact on politics, gender and nationhood in the Tudor era.

#### Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro \$22.95

Ishiguro imagines the lives of a group of students growing up in a darkly skewered version of contemporary England. A story of love, friendship and memory, this exceptional novel is charged throughout with a sense of the fragility of life.

<b>Editor</b> : Ann Leahy <b>Contributors</b> : Eve Abbey, David Hall, Lindy Jones, Ann Leahy & Cara Willetts	Binding Key           Pb         Paperback           Tp         Trade paperback (larger form Lp           Large paperback (very large)           Hb         Hardback           Lh         Large hardback (very large)           Ca         Cassettes	
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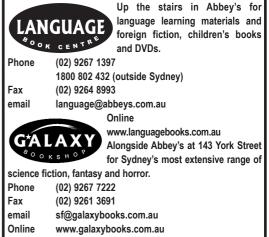
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