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Sat 19 - Sun 27 June

Mission Impossible

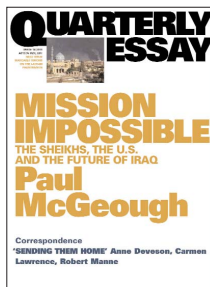
The Sheikhs, the US and the Future of Iraq

Quarterly Essay #14

Paul McGEOUGH

Pb \$13.95

Can Iraq be democratised? After spending months in Iraq, Australian foreign correspondent Paul McGeough is not sure. In June this year, the Bush administration wants, or at least wants to appear, to hand back control of the country to the Iraqis. Despite continued uncertainty and conflict, the White House maintains its public optimism about the future of the country, its invasion of which was based on lies. What is the basis for this optimism? Iraq's anti-democratic tradition and history provides a major hurdle; so does the power struggle among Bush's hand-picked team of exiles flown in after the war; and, perhaps most of all, so does the uncertain outcome of the push for power by the country's majority Shiite population. McGeough examines what sort of country Shiite-controlled Iraq might be and contrasts this vision with that of the US.



The Fabric of the Cosmos

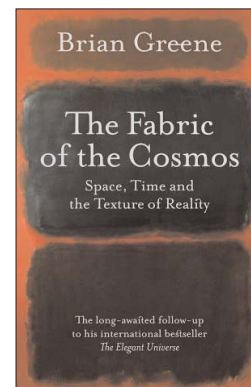
Space, Time and the Texture of Reality

Brian GREENE

569pp Hb \$49.95

"Nothing troubles me as much as space and time; and yet nothing troubles me less, as I never think about them." - Charles Lamb.

If you do think about space and time, then you will want to read this fabulous book. In it, the author of **The Elegant Universe** (Pb \$21.95) shows how relativity theory, quantum mechanics, cosmology and string theory have overthrown our common sense views of space and time. Although the subjects he tackles are sometimes difficult, he writes superbly, using humour, patient explanations and analogy to make thinking about them as easy and enjoyable as possible. With this book, Brian Greene confirms that he is one of the great popular science writers of our time. Even Mr Lamb would have been impressed.



Dave

Queen's Birthday Mon 14 June

Open 10am - 5pm



For millions of people, 16 June is an extraordinary day. On that day in 1904, Stephen Dedalus and Leopold Bloom each took their epic journeys through Dublin in James Joyce's **Ulysses** (Pb \$15.95), the world's most highly acclaimed modern novel. "Bloomsday", as it is now known, has become a tradition for Joyce enthusiasts all over the world. Now you can listen to Joyce read some of his own work in: **James Joyce: The Complete Recordings** (CD and Booklet \$32.95). Contains one CD read by Joyce including *Eolian Episode* (from *Ulysses*) recorded in Paris in 1924, and *Anna Livia Plurabelle* from *Finnegan's Wake* (Pb \$19.95), recorded in Cambridge in 1929, together with **James Joyce** an unpublished book (116 pages) by Eugene Jolas and Jolas-Joyce. Another new title to coincide with the centenary is **Yes I Said Yes I Will Yes: A Celebration of James Joyce, Ulysses, and 100 Years of Bloomsday** edited by Nola Tully (Pb \$25.00).

To celebrate 100 years of Bloomsday on 16 June we will give 10% off all Joyce-related titles.

Sydney Film Festival - offer for Abbey's Cardholders

Be a part of Sydney's ultimate winter event. This year features 230 of the world's best films over 16 days. Highlights of this year's program include *Bukowski: Born Into This*, the definitive screen bio of the fast-living, US cult novelist. Also, screening, starring Isabella Rossellini and adapted from a screenplay by Kazuo Ishiguro, is *The Saddest Music in the World*, a stunningly visual and deliciously eccentric tale of the quest to find the saddest music in the world. (State Theatre, 8.50pm Fri 18 June and 2.50pm Wed 23 June). Abbey's Cardholders can see *The Saddest Music in the World* at the discounted price of \$12.50 (2.50pm Wed 23 June session only, when booked before 10 June through the Sydney Film Festival box office on 9280 0611 and quoting "book"). For a full program and downloadable booking form, visit www.sydneyfilmfestival.org.

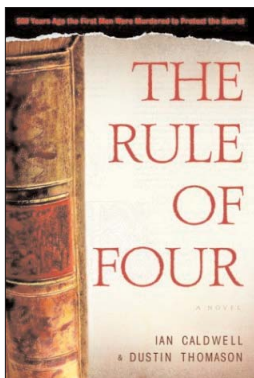


The Rule of Four

Ian CALDWELL & Dustin THOMASON

Tom Sullivan is about to graduate from Princeton. He's intelligent and popular, but haunted by the violent death several years earlier of his father, an academic who devoted his life to studying one of the rarest, most complex and most valuable books in the world. Since its publication in 1499, the Hypnerotomachia Poliphili has baffled scholars who have tried to understand its many mysteries. Coded in seven languages, the text is at once a passionate love story, an intricate mathematical labyrinth and a tale of arcane brutality. Paul Harris, Tom's roommate, has deeply personal reasons of his own for wanting to unveil the secrets the book hides. When a long-lost diary surfaces, it seems the two friends have found the key to the labyrinth, but when a fellow researcher is murdered only hours later, they suddenly find themselves in great danger. And what they discover embedded in the text stuns them: the passion of a Renaissance prince, a hidden crypt and a secret worth dying to protect!

384pp Tp \$32.95



The Confusion

Neal STEPHENSON

814pp Tp \$45.00

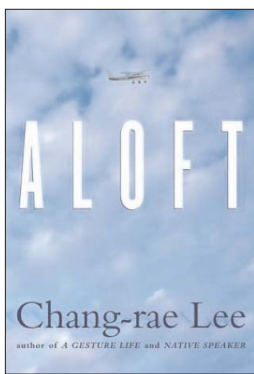
It is the late 1600s on the high seas. A group of Barbary galley slaves plot as they ply the oars of a pirate ship. These 10 men, unfortunates from around the world impressed into servitude, have heard whispers of an enormous cache of Spanish gold. Together, they hatch a daring scheme - escape their chains, seize a ship and find the treasure. Amazingly, they succeed, leaving behind some very unhappy men who vow to hunt down the vagabonds and bring them to justice. Meanwhile, back in France, the beautiful Eliza - toast of Versailles and spy extraordinaire - attempts to return to London with her baby, whose paternity is shrouded in mystery. As she makes her way home from the Continent, her ship is stopped by a French privateer and she is returned to the Sun King's court. Thrown back into a web of international intrigue, Eliza must contend with all manner of characters, including buccaneers, poisoners, Jesuits, financial manipulators and even a stray cryptographer. This profoundly compelling adventure brings to life a cast of unforgettable characters in a time of genius and discovery.

Aloft

Chang-Rae LEE

343pp Pb \$29.95

Jerry Battle loves to fly, but only on days where there is no sign of cloud. Up above the rest of the world, he can think about his life and his past, or just feel free. Down on the ground, life is not so fine - his long-time girlfriend has not only left him but has taken up with a mega-rich corporate lawyer. His son has overextended the landscaping business his grandfather started; said patriarch is definitely not going gently into the dark; and his daughter has wonderful - and devastating - news. A dysfunctional American family novel lifted by the quality of the prose and the gentle observations on human nature.



Lindy

The Sabre's Edge

Allan MALLINSON

392pp Pb \$21.95

1824; the Sixth Light Dragoons are still stationed in India and the talk in the officers' mess is of war. The Burmese are increasingly challenging the Company's dominion and skirmishes are becoming common on India's borders. Meanwhile, across the country in Rajputana, a princely succession has been usurped. The rightful claimant to the raj, Balwant Singh, has been forced from the throne by the war monger Durjan Sal. A conflagration looks set to flare, taking the surrounding provinces with it. With the threat of war on two fronts, British troops must intervene. The trial ahead will test Hervey and his newly blooded troop to their very limits, for Durjan Sal has taken refuge in the infamous fortress of Bhurtapore. The fortress stands within a five-mile perimeter, a deep ditch runs around it which can be flooded at a moment's notice and 35 turreted bastions rise from its thick and lofty walls. The Tower of Victory, built two decades before with the skulls of Lord Lake's defeated men, bears witness, for it has withstood all attacks. But no fortress is impregnable, given the will, the wit and the means. Once again, the fortunes of Matthew Hervey and his courageous troop will be decided by the sabre's edge.

Names for Nothingness

Georgia BLAIN

243pp Tp \$30

I love reading this author, her writing is like slow food for thought. There are no wasted words, no intellectual fripperies, just a simple and elegant tale of increasing isolation. Liam is so 'easy going' as to make a sloth appear hyperactive and Sharn is desperately trying to control what little she can in her life. In the meantime, her daughter Caitlin has left home and school to join a somewhat nihilistic cult devoted to the nothingness of the title. Her absence distills the least attractive traits in both Sharn and Liam, but it is when her mother tracks her down and returns to Liam with a young baby that things begin to break down, perhaps irreparably. Read it and ponder!

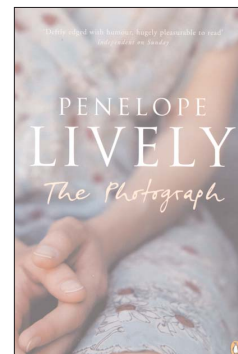
Cara

The Photograph

Penelope LIVELY

240pp Pb \$22.95

One day, whilst searching in a cupboard, Glyn finds a sealed envelope with the words 'Don't Open - Destroy' scrawled on it by his wife, Kath. Compelled by curiosity to ignore her instruction, he breaks the seal to find a photograph showing Kath holding hands with another man. Suddenly this one act of betrayal - hidden, concealed for many years - obsesses Glyn as he tries to get to the root of Kath's infidelity. But what other lives will be torn apart as he recklessly delves into the past, and what is the truth about Kath?



The Midwife's Tale

Gretchen MORAN LASKAS

256pp Tp \$22.95

"I come from a long line of midwives. I was expected to follow Mama, follow Granny, follow Great-granny. In the end, I didn't disappoint them. Or perhaps I did. After all, there were no more midwives after me." For generations, the women in Elizabeth's family have brought life to Kettle Valley, West Virginia, heeding a destiny to tend its women with herbs, experience and wisdom. All the births and dates are recorded in tall black ledgers kept by Elizabeth's mother, but there is also a smaller, red ledger. Elizabeth does not always feel comfortable with her fate as a midwife and when she discovers the true purpose of the red book - to record fatal, unnatural and difficult births - she is shocked and disturbed by the contents. As Elizabeth loses faith in her vocation, she also loses her heart, to the one man who will never return her love, even when she moves into his home to share his bed and raise his child. She finds solace in mothering Lauren, her lover's child, but Elizabeth, who has brought so many lives into the world, must also come to terms with the fact that she herself is barren...

The Tattooed Girl

Joyce CAROL OATES

307pp Tp \$29.95

This new novel from the prolific, yet masterful, Carol Oates is an intense, visceral, yet unexpectedly tender story about a celebrated but reclusive author, Joshua Siegel. Young, but in failing health, Siegel reluctantly admits that he can no longer live alone. He launches a search for an assistant and finds Alma. A young woman with synthetic-looking blond hair and pale, tattooed skin, she stirs something inside him. Unaware of her torturous past - the abuses she's suffered, the wrongs she's committed and the hatred that seethes within her - he has no idea that he is bringing into his home an enemy: an anti-Semite who despises him virulently. With her unique balance of dark suspense and surprising tenderness, Carol Oates probes the tragedy of ethnic hatred and challenges accepted limits of desire.

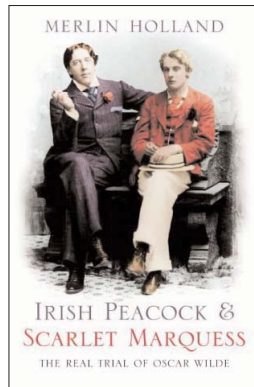
Irish Peacock and Scarlet Marquess

The Real Trial of Oscar Wilde

Merlin HOLLAND

Holland presents the original transcript of the famous Wilde versus Queensberry trial, containing previously unrecorded details and exchanges that took place in the courtroom. With extensive footnotes and a new introduction, this account brings to life the trial that redirected Wilde's life. The love affair between Oscar Wilde and Lord Alfred Bosie Douglas is one of the most famous in history. As a direct consequence of this relationship, Wilde underwent three trials in quick succession in 1895, marking the beginning of the end of his celebrated career. In the first trial, he sued the Marquess of Queensberry for criminal libel after Queensberry left his card at Wilde's club with "For Oscar Wilde posing sodomite" written on it. Wilde's case collapsed on the third day when Queensberry's counsel, Edward Carson, started to introduce the evidence of young male prostitutes or 'renters' whom the defence had found in London's homosexual underworld. Wilde was arrested the same evening and tried twice for "gross indecency". The transcript of the trial that redirected Wilde's history raises new questions about Queensberry's intentions towards his son, as well as casting new light on Wilde's demeanour throughout the ordeal.

340pp Pb \$24.95

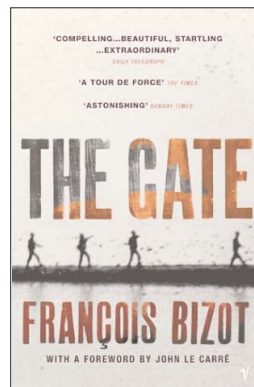


The Gate

Francois BIZOT

285pp Pb \$24.95

In 1971, on a routine outing through the Cambodian countryside, the young French ethnologist Francois Bizot is captured by the Khmer Rouge. Accused of being an agent of 'American imperialism', he is chained and imprisoned. His captor, Douch - later responsible for tens of thousands of deaths - interrogates him at length. After three months of torturous deliberation, during which his every word was weighed and his life hung in the balance, he was released. Four years later, the Khmer Rouge entered Phnom Penh. Bizot became the official intermediary between the ruthless conqueror and the terrified refugees behind the gate of the French embassy: a ringside seat to one of history's most appalling genocides. Written 30 years later, Bizot's memoir of his horrific experiences in the 'killing fields' of Cambodia is, in the words of John le Carre, a "contemporary classic".



Let Me Go

Helga SCHNEIDER

240pp Hb \$32.95

In 1998, Helga Schneider, in her 60s, was summoned from Italy to the nursing home in Vienna in which her 90-year-old mother lived. The last time she had seen her mother was 27 years earlier, when she asked Helga to try on a treasured SS uniform and tried, unsuccessfully, to give her several items of jewellery, the loot of holocaust victims. Prior to that, the last time they had seen each other was in 1941 (when Helga was 4 and her brother 19 months old), when Frau Schneider abandoned her family in order to pursue her career as an SS officer. As their conversation continues, Schneider establishes that her mother moved from the Nazi women's camp at Ravensbruck to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where she was in charge of a 'correction' unit where brutal torture was administered. Her mother not only remains uncontrite, but continues to regard her former prisoners as the sub-human inferiors of Nazi ideology. Helga's extraordinary, frank account is desperately sad and extremely powerful.



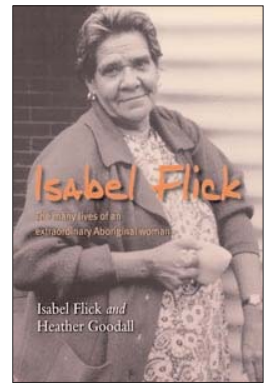
Isabel Flick

The Many Lives of an Extraordinary Aboriginal Woman

Isabel FLICK & Heather GOODALL

288pp Tp \$35.00

"And I said that to this old fella at the ticket box: 'I want you to come and fix this. Take these ropes off! What do you think we are? Our money is as good as anyone else's and we want to sit where we want to sit.' I kept standing there in front of the ticket office, and by then my sister-in-law was there too. The two of us, making trouble! And my poor little heart, I don't know how it stayed in my chest ..." Isabel Flick was always making trouble. This is her story, told in her own words and those of her family and friends, beginning on the riverbank camps of Collarenebri, where at an early age she was barred from formal education and threatened by the Protection Board with 'removal'. She then moves from the harsh controls of Toomelah Mission to the cotton fields of Wee Waa, from cooking for the upper classes in Rose Bay to marching in the street protests of Redfern and lobbying in the halls of Parliament House. She grew up to challenge the suffocating racism of rural Australia, demanding desegregation and justice in education, work, health and before the law. And eventually, returning to the riverbank of the Barwon, Isabel's enormous political experience and courage were acknowledged by the non-Aboriginal people of her town.



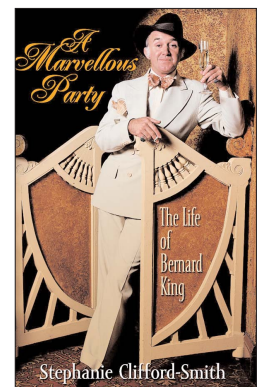
A Marvellous Party

The Life of Bernard King

Stephanie CLIFFORD-SMITH

274pp Tp \$29.95

"I'm often seen about - a glimpse of true sparkle - a harbinger of hedonism, a truly unnecessary accessory on the sideboard of swank." Bernard King, Australia's first true celebrity chef and infamous talent-quest judge, led an extraordinary life. Along with his goldmine of gastronomic knowledge, he had lashings of entertaining experience as everything from fashion-parade compere to drag-show producer. From his early years on a Queensland dairy farm to a long and successful stage, cabaret and television career, King was a personality who divided the nation. Politically incorrect, outrageous and always razor-witted, it was impossible to feel ambivalent about him. Drawing on exclusive final interviews just weeks before his tragic death, Clifford-Smith uncovers Bernard's life and loves, and tracks his career from its dizzying highs to its heartbreaking lows.



Charmian and George

The Marriage of George Johnston and Charmian Clift

Max BROWN

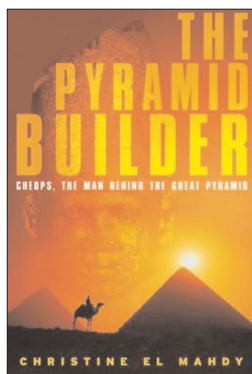
255pp Pb \$29.95

Max Brown worked with George Johnston on the *Melbourne Argus*. This readable book details the marriage of Johnston and Clift, a couple with a large weight of accumulated legend to their partnership. Drawing on a number of sources, including interviews with people who knew the couple, Brown argues that Clift had the true talent but her gifts were wasted in various ways, not least by Johnston's jealousy. This book doesn't claim to be academic (you can't go past Nadia Wheatley's *Life and Myth of Charmian Clift* (Pb \$35.00) if you're after a thorough evaluation), but is a lively account of one of the most interesting literary pairings Australia has yet produced. *Lindy*

The Pyramid Builder

Cheops, the Man Behind the Great Pyramid

Christine EL MAHDY 352pp Tp \$24.95
4,500 years ago, the largest of the wonders of the ancient world was built. The Great Pyramid at Giza has fascinated and intrigued scholars ever since and it the only one of the wonders listed by the Greeks to have survived intact to this day. By the time Tutankhamen ruled Egypt, it was already 1,500 years old; to Cleopatra it was an antiquity. But how was it built? Why and by whom? The Great Pyramid, thought to be evidence of a slave-culture on a truly despotic scale, has fascinated travellers and archaeologists since the 19th century revival of interest in antiquities. And with it a fascination with the pharaoh who built it: Cheops. Christine El Mahdy has turned her detective approach to Egyptology into a look at the man behind the monument - the life and times of the greatest pyramid builder of them all.



The Generalship of Alexander the Great

J F C FULLER 352pp Pb \$35.00

In a brief and meteoric life (356-323 BC), the greatest of all conquerors redirected the course of world history. Alexander the Great accomplished this feat with a small army - no more than 40,000 men - and a constellation of bold, revolutionary ideas about the conduct of war and the nature of government. In a style both clear and witty, Fuller imparts the many sides to Alexander's genius and the full extent of his empire, stretching from India to Egypt.

Sport and Festival in the Ancient Greek World

David PHILLIPS & David PRITCHARD 416pp Hb \$150.00

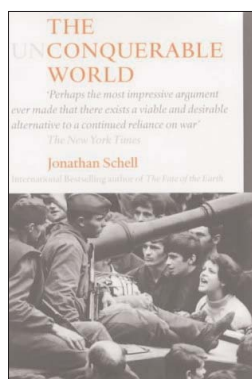
This collection of 16 thematically linked articles was inspired by the Sydney Olympic Games of 2000. Its international cast includes leading authorities in the study of ancient Greek sport. It considers how sport and festival affected the ancient Greek city and how the values of athletics pervaded Greek culture. To accompany the main focus on the ancient world, the book examines allied topics of modern culture, such as the sometimes troubled relationship between research on ancient Greek sport and the modern Olympic movement, and it questions how museums may best present to a modern public the surviving Greek artefacts linked with sport.

The Unconquerable World

Power, Nonviolence and the Will of the People

Jonathan SCHELL 435pp Hb \$49.95

Throughout history, civilisation has been shaped by war. Now, after a century of unprecedented devastation, it seems humankind is preparing to embark on another cycle of violence. Are we condemned to be in a state of perpetual warfare? Schell has consistently been one of the most influential and eloquent voices in the debate about global warfare and the arms race. His bestseller, **The Fate of the Earth** (now out of print), focused on the case for nuclear disarmament and may have helped shape two decades of thinking about man's relationship with agents of destruction. Now, as the international order is once more in a state of upheaval, Schell has written another provocative book that aims to point the way out of the bloodshed of the 20th century. He strives to show how the underlying dynamics of history have often been shaped not by military actions, but by battles for the hearts and minds of the people. His close re-examinations of the British, French and Russian revolutions, the collapse of Soviet power in Eastern Europe in 1989, the war in Vietnam and other key moments in history illustrate how all these events can be understood in a new way when viewed through the prism of non-violence.



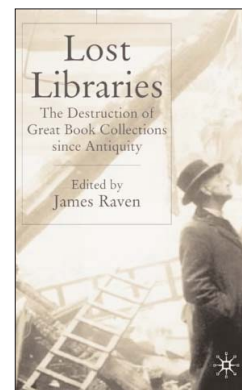
Lost Libraries

The Destruction of Great Book Collections since Antiquity

James RAVEN (editor)

312pp Hb \$49.95

Whenever I think of the destruction of knowledge in the pogroms of the past, and even the present, it has always made me angry, and this book, although ground breaking, was no different. However, in exploring the destruction of great libraries since ancient times, it also focuses and examines the intellectual, political and cultural consequences of such a loss. Here are 14 original contributions, introducing a major re-evaluative history of lost libraries, offering the first comparative discussion of the greatest catastrophes in book history from Mesopotamia and Alexandria to the dispersal of monastic and monarchical book collections, the Nazi destruction of Jewish libraries and the recent horrifying pillage and burning in Tibet, Bosnia and Iraq. An important collection.



Michelle

Emperors Don't Die in Bed

Fik MEIJHER

192pp Pb \$43.00

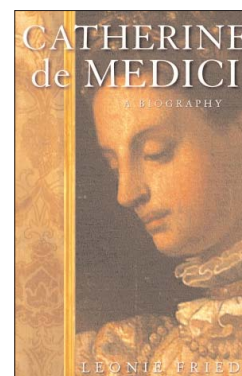
Very few of the Roman emperors died a natural death. The insane Caligula was murdered after leaving the theatre; Caracalla while he was relieving himself; Caesar was stabbed 23 times and Otho was dragged (gruesomely) into the Tiber with a flesh-hook. However great an emperor's power, danger was ever present. This fresh and engaging book looks at each of the Roman emperors from Julius Caesar in 44 BC to Romulus Augustus in 476 AD, illuminating not only the manner of their deaths but what their final days tell us about their lives. An entertaining look at a usually sanguine end.

Michelle

Catherine de Medici

Leoine FRIEDA 440pp Hb \$59.95

Catherine de Medici was half French, half Italian. Orphaned in infancy, she was the sole legitimate heiress to the Medici family fortune. Married at 14 to the future Henri II of France, she was constantly humiliated by his influential mistress Diane de Poitiers. When her husband died as a result of a duelling accident in Paris - Frieda's magnificent, throat-grabbing opening chapter - Catherine was made queen regent during the short reign of her eldest son (married to Mary Queen of Scots and, like many of her children, he died young). When her second son became king, she was the power behind the throne. She nursed dynastic ambitions, but was continually drawn into political and religious intrigues between Catholics and Protestants that plagued France for much of the later part of her life. It had always been said that she was implicated in the notorious Saint Bartholomew's Day Massacre, together with the king and her third son, Henry III. He succeeded to the throne in 1574, but was murdered shortly after Catherine's death.



I Saw Ramallah

Mourid BARGHOUTI (trans Ahdaf Soueif) 184pp Hb \$35.00

Displacement is something that happens to other people: so many of us tell ourselves, just as poet Mourid Barghouti did until the summer of 1967. Sitting his final exams at Cairo University, he anticipated a merry return to his family in Ramallah and a 'literary' future. But as one of the youth of Palestine who found themselves outside its borders at that time, a frustrating life of forced exile followed the Israeli occupation. In this beautifully written memoir of Barghouti's return journey 30 years later, he explains the peculiar pain of not being able to 'go home' for so long, and the strangeness of finally doing so. Edward Said introduces what is an important personal perspective within the confused politics of Palestine; it has been translated into English by Ahdaf Soueif, author of **Map of Love** (Pb \$21.95).

Sally

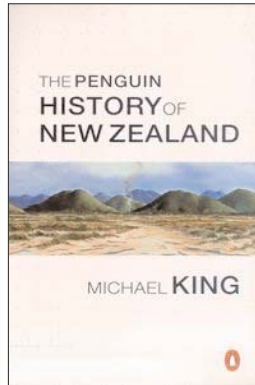
The President of Good and Evil

Taking George W Bush Seriously

Peter SINGER 256pp Tp \$30.00
Examining Bush's words and deeds on key ethical issues during his presidency at first appears to be a no-brainer, given his propensity for couching his (in)actions in terms of right and wrong. However, it is difficult to state with any accuracy exactly what kind of ethic (if any) Mr Bush holds, since the three most likely - Christian, Utilitarian and Intuitive - often contradict each other and are based on differing ethical stances; nor has he elucidated a framework or set of principles which might elaborate on his notion of universal right and wrong. Singer's conclusion - unsurprisingly - is that Bush's ethic is "woefully inadequate". In judging Bush's differing ethical positions and their defensibility, this one is a knock-out!
Cara

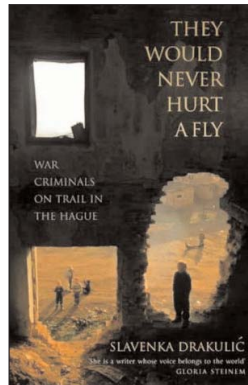
The Penguin History of New Zealand

Michael KING 564pp Pb \$26.95
What luck that this marvellous history was finished before Dr King's untimely death. As with his previous books, this is told with typical brio and empathy for those who people the narrative, both *Maori* and *Pakeha*. He begins with a brief chapter on the creation of New Zealand - both actual and mythological - before encompassing all the major (and many minor) occurrences which make up accepted New Zealand history. Full of wonderful anecdotes and a wealth of detail, this is a far cry from the previous *Penguin History of New Zealand* by Keith Sinclair, which put generations of students, including myself, to sleep within minutes. Dr King's final work is an absolute pleasure to read and it is a crying shame that we will never read the memoir which was to be his next project.
Cara



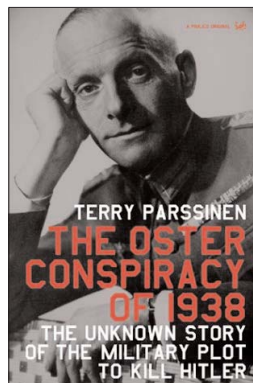
They Would Never Hurt a Fly

Slavenka DRAKULIC 192pp Pb \$24.95
Slavenka Drakulic attended the Serbian war crimes trial in the Hague. This important book is about how ordinary people commit terrible crimes in wartime. With extraordinary story-telling skill, Drakulic draws us in to this difficult subject. From the monstrous Slobodan Milosevich and his evil Lady Macbeth of a wife to humble Serb soldiers who claim they were 'just obeying orders', Drakulic brilliantly enters the minds of the killers. There are also great stories of bravery and survival, both from those who helped Bosnians escape from the Serbs and from those who risked their lives to help them.



The Oster Conspiracy of 1938

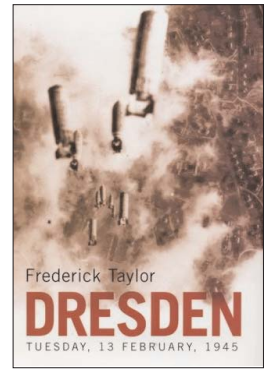
The Unknown Story of the Military Plot to Kill Hitler
Terry PARSSINEN 232pp Tp \$38.00
In September 1938, Hitler had been in power for more than five years and had abrogated most of the constraints placed on German militarism by the Treaty of Versailles. Earlier that year, he had forced Austria into his Third Reich without a single shot fired, and his sights were set on Czechoslovakia. It was in this climate that a coup was born, led by Lieutenant Colonel Hans Oster, involving German military leaders, members of the Berlin police, local troop commanders, civil authorities, religious leaders and a courageous group of resisters who assembled in a mission to unseat, and even kill, Hitler. This book mines the cultural and political milieu of post-WWI Europe, the forces and personal histories that motivated the group to such decisive and dangerous action, and the catalyst of their ultimate failure.



Dresden

Tuesday, 13 February, 1945

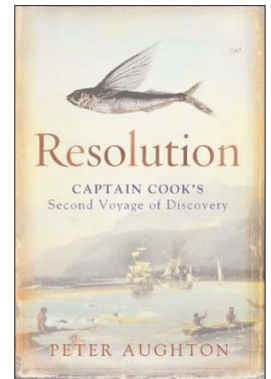
Frederick TAYLOR 742pp Tp \$39.95
At 9.51pm on Tuesday, 13 February 1945, Dresden's air-raid sirens sounded as they had done many times in the previous five years, until then mostly false alarms. 10 minutes later, the first marker flares were dropped by Mosquitos of 627 Squadron. No searchlights probed the skies above the unprotected target city; the guns had mostly been moved East to counter the Russian advance. By the next morning, 796 RAF Lancasters and 311 USAAF Flying Fortresses had dropped more than 4,500 tons of high explosives and incendiary devices. More than 25,000 inhabitants (possibly many more) perished in that terrifying firestorm and 13 square miles of the city's historic centre, including incalculable quantities of treasure and works of art, lay in ruins. It was Ash Wednesday 1945. Almost a lifetime later, the name of the city continues to echo uneasily in our collective memory, and controversy about Dresden's destruction continues. In this fascinating new study, Taylor has delved deeply into the German, British and American archives and talked to the British and American bomber crews and to the city's survivors, including Jews working as slave labourers in the munitions and radar factories, refugees, members of the German armed services, or civilians, to reveal the most complete portrait ever attempted of the city and its fate.



Resolution

Captain Cook's Second Voyage of Discovery

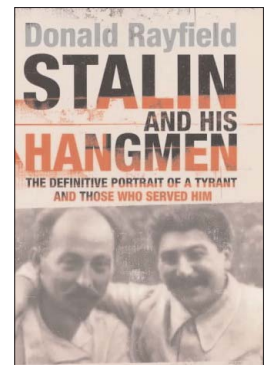
Peter AUGHTON 189pp Hb \$49.95
A year and a day after James Cook arrived back on English soil having claimed Australia and New Zealand for the British crown, he set sail again on a three-year journey (1772-1775) that still remains the greatest exploratory voyage ever undertaken in the far Southern waters of the Indian, Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. His was the first ship ever to cross the Antarctic Circle and no sailing ship since has ventured further south through the ice. This is a colourful and exciting story of the crew and their life aboard the *Resolution* and the adventures that occurred whenever they landed on exotic islands and coasts such as Tahiti, Easter Island, the Tonga Islands and above all the snow, fog, treacherous ice and blizzards of Antarctica.



Stalin and His Hangmen

The Definitive Portrait of a Tyrant and Those Who Served Him

Donald RAYFIELD 560pp Hb \$49.95
Yet another Stalin book? For a man who was at least twice as bad as Hitler - there are not twice as many books - there's plenty more to know about the Stalin legacy. This work has a strong historical and political orientation, but its main focus is the psychological chain that connected Stalin with those men he chose as executioners, in both the narrow and broad sense of the world. His successful manipulations depended on an attraction to figures like himself - laconic and ruthless controllers. To understand Stalin, the reader must understand the background of his life - abused child, trainee priest, resentful victim of imperial power, bandit and puppet master.



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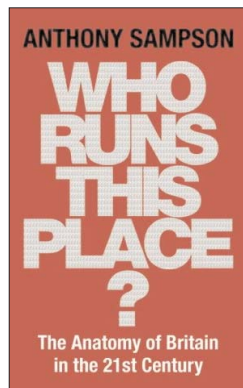
If you are after one of the fine titles from Cambridge University Press, please ask us first. We stock virtually all titles held by Cambridge in Australia, plus a few more!

Who Runs This Place?

The Anatomy of Britain in the 21st Century

Anthony SAMPSON

40 years ago, Anthony Sampson wrote his indispensable bestseller **The Anatomy of Britain** (out of print). Now he has felt drawn back to the task by exasperation with the lack of democracy and accountability in Blair's Britain. How has power become so concentrated in so few hands? Whatever happened to all those alternative centres - like parliament, the monarchy, the regions or the cabinet? Why are company directors, lawyers and accountants so unanswerable to the people they represent? Sampson follows 'the will o' the wisp of power' through each profession, vividly describing the new people at the top: corporate chiefs in place of hereditary landowners, Islington media couples in place of Kensington toffs. He finds still more power concentrating on Downing Street, which has never been more distant from parliament - or closer to big business. After four decades of power-watching, Sampson is now more impatient with the abuses. But he is hopeful that the British people will finally reassert their democratic rights, whether as voters or shareholders.



416pp Tp \$39.95

Isabella and the Strange Death of Edward II

Paul DOHERTY

224pp Pb \$24.95

It is said that the great power of the chessboard queen can be directly attributed to the extraordinary life of Isabella, wife to King Edward II. A remarkably beautiful woman, the daughter of Philip IV of France, Isabella was married to the bisexual Edward at the age of 12. The marriage was intended to create a lasting peace between England and France. Isabella was for a time a loyal consort, while Edward lurched from one crisis to another at home and abroad, and transferred his affections from Piers Gaveston to the more sinister favourite, Hugh de Spencer the Younger (ancestor to the late Diana, Princess of Wales), who lost no opportunity to insult the queen. After 13 years she fled abroad, where she fell in love with the exiled Roger Mortimer. Between them, they raised an army of mercenaries and successfully deposed Edward, inflicting a gruesome death on Hugh de Spencer. During her years as regent for her young son, the future Edward III, Isabella is believed to have organised the notorious fate of her husband at Berkeley Castle, which eventually resulted in the hanging of Mortimer at Tyburn.

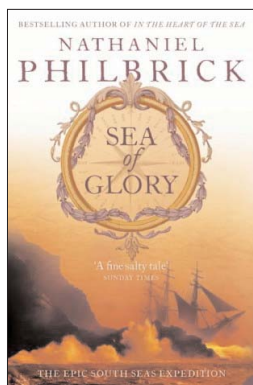
Sea of Glory

The Epic South Seas Expedition 1838-42

Nathaniel PHILBRICK

452pp Tp \$35.00

The dramatic story of the largest voyage of discovery in the history of the world and the last such all-sail convoy. Headed by the controversial Lieutenant Charles Wilkes and consisting of six sailing vessels and 346 men, the "Ex Ex" (the United States Exploring Expedition of 1838-42) represented the largest voyage of discovery in the history of the world. Four years later, after losing two ships and 71 men, the expedition had logged 87,000 miles, surveyed 280 Pacific islands and created 180 charts, some of which were still being used as late as World War II. The Expedition's scientists collected 4,000 zoological specimens, including 2,000 new species, and thousands of ethnographic artefacts that would become the basis of the Smithsonian Institution. The Expedition also mapped 800 miles of coastline in the Pacific Northwest, providing the federal government with the information it needed to stake its claim on the Oregon Territory. The Expedition's crowning achievement was the discovery of a new southern continent that Wilkes would name Antarctica.



Atlas of the Valley of the Kings (136pp Tp \$80.00) by Kent Weeks provides the first detailed surveyed maps and plans produced from one of the most famous World Heritage sites. From the tomb of Tutankhamen to the tomb of the sons of Ramesses II, all of the significant and accessible tombs in the valley are included.

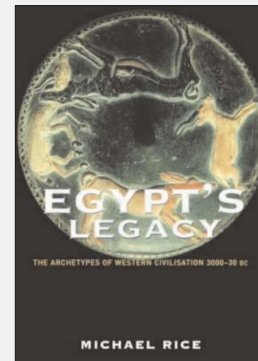
Anthony Barrett's **Livia: First Lady of Imperial Rome** (425pp \$43.00) is now available in paperback. Equally useful to both scholars and general readers, it reveals Livia as a complex figure whose enduring political influence helped shape Roman government long after her death.

The Friend (380pp Hb \$80.00) by Alan Bray examines ceremonies of same-sex union, letters between friends, literary works and funerary monuments to consider representations of friendship in England from 1000 to 1800 A.D. Bray reveals how much the English post-Renaissance and post-Reformation imagination draws on its Catholic past in a work described as 'a masterpiece of historical scholarship'.

The Stag Hunt and the Evolution of Social Structure (149pp Pb \$49.95) by Brian Skyrms is a study of ideas of cooperation and social structure. The point of departure is a prototypical story found in Rousseau's **Discourse on Inequality** (Pb \$11.95) where Rousseau contrasts hunting hare, where the risk of noncooperation is small but the reward is equally small, with hunting the stag, where maximum cooperation is required but the reward is much greater.

Egyptian Mythology (254pp Pb \$44.95) by Geraldine Pinch is a comprehensive introduction that untangles the mystery of Egyptian myth. Covering the period from 3200 BC to AD 400 it has a substantial A to Z section that covers the principal themes and concepts of Egyptian mythology as well as the most important deities and other characters and also contains a discussion of the nature of myths and the history of Egypt.

Michael Rice's **Egypt's Legacy** (233pp Pb \$54.00) explores the majesty of ancient Egyptian history from 3,000 to 30 BC. Its unique approach is based on the Jungian idea that certain psychological drives, known as archetypes, lie dormant in our shared unconscious. The author argues that characteristic Egyptian institutions such as the nation-state and an omnipotent, isolated god are powerful and complex archetypes.



In **The Evolution of Morality and Religion** (259pp Pb \$59.95) Donald Broom argues that morality and religion have evolved as a consequence of natural selection, that morally acceptable behaviour benefits the species as a whole and that a principal function of religion is to underpin and encourage such behaviour.

Geoffrey Wawro's **The Franco-Prussian War** (327pp Hb \$75.00) describes in thrilling detail this war that changed the course of European history. From the political intrigues that began and ended the war to the bloody battles at Gravelotte and Sedan this is a stunning, authoritative account of the Franco-Prussian War.

Magic Mystery and Science (390pp Pb \$42.95) by Dan Burton and David Gandy tells the story of the occult as a 'third stream' of belief, as important to the shaping of Western civilisation as Greek rationalism and Judeo-Christianity. The occult seeks explanations in a world that is - unlike the one supposed by science - living and intelligent. By taking these beliefs seriously, this book aims to capture some of the power of the occult.

In **The Lesser Evil** (212pp Hb \$47.95) Michael Ignatieff looks at how open societies should respond to terrorism. He argues that we must not shrink from the use of violence, but its use must be measured - and we must not fool ourselves that whatever we do in the name of freedom and democracy is good.

Reigns of Terror (306pp Pb \$39.95) by Patricia Marchak is an exposé of states that have committed gross human rights crimes against their own citizens. The author seeks to discover whether these states have anything in common - whether there are preconditions that can be identified as leading to crimes against humanity so that the world community could take preventive action in similar situations elsewhere.

Dave

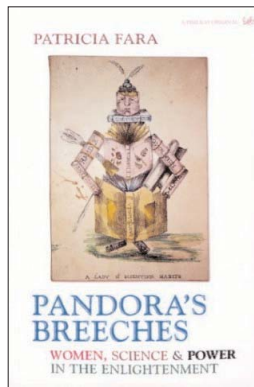
Pandora's Breeches

Women, Science and Power in the Enlightenment

Patricia FARA

"Had God intended Women merely as a finer sort of cattle, he would not have made them reasonable." Writing in 1673, Bathsua Makin was one of the first women to insist that girls should receive a scientific education. Despite the efforts of Makin and her successors, women were excluded from universities until the end of the 19th century, yet they found other ways to participate in scientific projects. Because these were being carried out inside private houses, rather than in universities or industrial laboratories, experiments often involved the whole family. As well as collaborating in this home-based research, women corresponded with internationally renowned scholars, hired tutors and even published their own books. They played essential roles in work that was frequently attributed solely to their husbands, fathers or friends. Women, in this way, have not been written out of the history of science: they have never been written in. If mentioned at all, they appear in subservient roles as helpless admirers or menial assistants. Historians always decide which facts to emphasise and they generally choose to depict a vision of scientific progress that ignores women's activities. This engaging work goes some way towards exploring how women of the 17th-19th centuries engaged in scientific endeavour and contributed to its rapid growth.

Cara



212pp Tp \$40.00

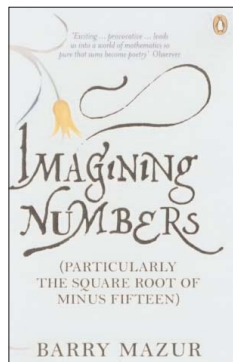
Imagining Numbers

(Particularly the Square Root of Minus Fifteen)

Barry MAZUR

288pp Pb \$22.95

This is a book about the imagination in general and about the mathematical imagination in particular. Mazur considers the range of our imaginative experiences. When we read a line of poetry - "The yellow of the tulip" - what is it we experience in the mind's eye? And when we imagine a number, in particular an impossible number such as the square root of a negative quantity, what imaginative object might this bring to mind?



A Brief History of Infinity

Paolo ZELLINI

208pp Hb \$35.00

In this book, the infinite in all its forms - viewed from the perspective of mathematicians, philosophers and theologians - is explored, as Zellini strives to explain this fundamental principle. What is the difference between true and false infinity? How might we explain away the puzzle of Zeno's paradox? And how is the concept of infinity helping us as we wrestle with the fundamental uncertainties of the quantum world? Paolo Zellini shows that the concept of the infinite is a multifaceted one, and demonstrates the manner in which humanity has attempted to comprehend that concept for millennia.

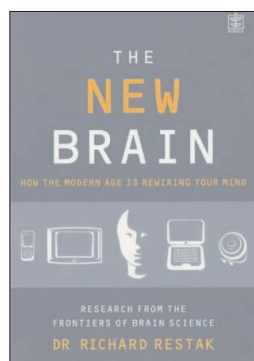
The New Brain

How the Modern Age is Rewiring Your Mind

Richard RESTAK

237pp Tp \$30.00

Genetic mapping, imaging technology and psychopharmacology have converged to give us an unprecedented understanding of how the brain works and how we can affect its operation. We are also beginning to understand how the modern world - computers, mobile phones, the Internet, violence on TV - is causing the brain to evolve. Drugs that work in the brain to prevent us feeling depressed, anxious or fearful, or that enhance concentration and memory are already available; and dramatic treatments to repair damage in the brain are becoming common. Offering scientific proof, Restak shows how the world we live in has affected our ability to focus, concentrate and respond effectively to the multi-tasking demands of modern life.



The New Atlas of Australian Birds

Geoff BARRETT, Andrew SILCOCKS, Simon BARRY, Ross CUNNINGHAM, Rory POULTER

824pp Hb \$89.95

From 1998 to 2002, Birds Australia co-ordinated the largest continent-wide survey of birds in the world. Over 7,000 atlasers, equipped with binoculars, field guides, GPS units and notebooks, produced 270,000 bird lists and nearly 5 million bird records. This is the culmination of these efforts, presenting 4,000 distribution maps for over 650 bird species, identifying those that are more common or less common since the first *Atlas of Australian Birds* was completed 20 years ago. Essential to environmental planners as well as bird enthusiasts, the Atlas includes a delightful range of drawings from leading Australian artists and sets a new benchmark in our knowledge of bird distribution.

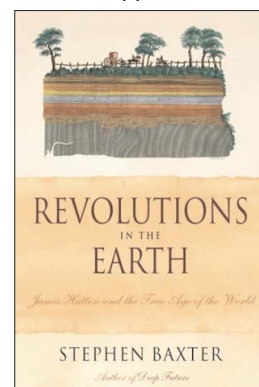
Revolutions in the Earth

James Hutton and the True Age of the World

Stephen BAXTER

245pp Pb \$26.95

The gripping story of a scientific quest and a man beyond his time. In 1650, the theologian and scholar Bishop James Ussher announced that the world was created on 23 October 4004 BC. This date had been carefully calculated by adding together all the ages and reigns of the monarchs recorded in the Bible. In the late 18th century, James Hutton set out to prove him wrong. A gentleman farmer with legal and medical training, Hutton was fascinated with the natural landscape and in particular with rock formations. He was also surrounded by some of the most brilliant men of his day - Erasmus Darwin, Adam Smith, James Watt and David Hume. Looking at the irregular strata in the layers of the earth, Hutton deduced that the world must be much, much older than Ussher's prediction. His revelation was blasphemy, but it was also one of the most extraordinary defining moments in history, forming the framework for Darwin's theory of evolution and shaping our modern view of the world and our place in it.



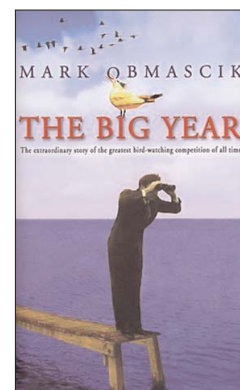
The Big Year

The Extraordinary Story of the Greatest Bird-watching Competition of all Time

Mark OBMASCICK

268pp Tp \$35.00

In the USA, some 50 million people lay claim to being bird-watchers or 'birders', spending over \$60 billion on birding-related travel each year and over \$560 million on birding-related membership fees. And for a select - and utterly obsessed few - they compete in one of the world's quirkiest contests: the race to spot the most species in North America in a single year. And 1998 wasn't just a big year, it was the biggest! This is *Pulitzer Prize*-winner Mark Obmascik's account of what was to become the greatest 'birding' year of all time (freak weather conditions ensured all previous records were broken) as experienced by three of the biggest, most obsessive hitters in the birding world. Greg Miller, the recently divorced software engineer for a nuclear plant; Al Levantin, retired vice president of a billion-dollar chemical conglomerate; and Sandy Komito, a New Jersey roofing contractor and holder of the Big Year bird-spotting record for 1987. Oh, and there's the Californian who, too infirm to go out into the field, participates in Big Sits - birdwatching on TV - his greatest fear is those competitors with satellite dishes... A captivating tour of human and avian nature, of courage and deceit, passion and paranoia, fear and loathing, this book reveals the extremes to which man will go to pursue his dreams.



The Hedgehog, The Fox and the Magister's Pox (274pp Pb \$24.95) was Stephen Jay Gould's last science book. It deals with the assumption, born in the 17th century and continuing to this day, that science and the humanities stand in opposition, and Gould argues in this book that in fact each would benefit by borrowing from the other.

Richard Dawkins' **A Devil's Chaplain** (310pp \$24.95) is now in paperback. The essays touch not only on science in general and evolution in particular, but also travel, education, literature and religion, and one essay is about his great protagonist, Stephen Jay Gould.

Seldom Seen (208pp Pb \$29.95) by Alan Fairley (**Native Plants of the Sydney District** Hb \$125.00) is a guide to 210 rare and endangered species of plants found in the Greater Sydney region.

Cometography by Gary Kronk is a four-volume catalogue of every comet observed throughout history. Volume 1 (Hb \$250.00) covered the period from ancient times to 1799. Volume 2 (Hb \$399.00) contains detailed observer descriptions of comets seen from 1800 to 1899.

The latest volume in the *Bird Families of the World* series is **The Bowerbirds** (508pp Hb \$250.00) by Clifford and Dawn Frith. This is the definitive work on these fascinating birds with general chapters dealing with everything from systematics to courtship displays as well as individual chapters on every species.

Kepler's Witch (402pp Hb \$45.00) by James Connor looks at the life of one of the most important scientists in history, beginning with the trial of his mother for witchcraft and his subsequent pilgrimage through a Europe on the eve of the Thirty Years' War.

Mind Over Matter (319pp Pb \$25.85) by K C Cole is a delightful collection of short essays on some of the world's most intriguing scientific subjects - from particle physics to cosmology to mathematics and astronomy that capture the wonder of modern science.

Two new books in the NASA Mission Reports series edited by Robert Godwin are **Gemini 12** (263pp Pb \$39.95) the last of the Gemini missions, which was flown by Jim (Apollo 13) Lovell and Buzz Aldrin (the book includes a CD-ROM featuring an interview with Lovell and the complete surface to air transcript) and **Mars Volume 2** (462pp Pb \$49.95). The book contains a wealth of information on the ongoing Mars Global Surveyor, Mars Odyssey and Mars Exploration Rover missions. The bonus DVD-Video/DVD-ROM features video and images from the Mars Rover missions as well as four complete books on Mars in PDF format.

Red Sky at Morning (299pp Hb \$49.95) by James Speth explains why current approaches to critical global environmental problems - climate change, biodiversity loss, deterioration of marine environments, deforestation, water shortages and others - don't work now and never will. Setting forth eight specific steps to a sustainable future, the author convincingly argues that dramatically different and far-reaching actions by citizens and government are now urgent.

Among the most unusual extinct Australian animals were the Mihirungs, members of the now extinct family of flightless birds the Dromornithidae, the largest weighing almost half a tonne. **Magnificent Mihirungs** (410pp Hb \$125.00) by Peter Murray and Patricia Vickers-Rich is a complete synthesis of current information about this unique, diverse and fascinating group of birds.

Also new are **Dragons in the Dust: The Paleobiology of the Giant Monitor Lizard Megalania** (210pp Hb \$69.95) by Ralph Molnar and **Feathered Dragons: Studies on the Transition from Dinosaurs to Birds** (361pp Hb \$95.00).

Richard Southwood's **The Story of Life** (264pp Pb \$42.95) is an authoritative, well-written history of life on Earth.

Daniel Dennett's latest book is **Freedom Evolves** (347pp Pb \$27.95). In it, he argues that free will does exist, and the key to understanding this great philosophical question is evolution.

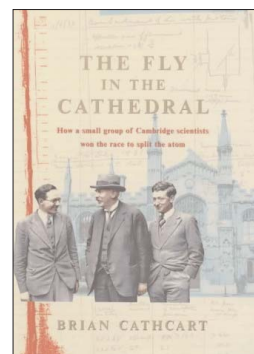
In **Spying with Maps** (239pp Pb \$34.95), Mark Monmonier looks at the increased use of geographic data, satellite imagery and location tracking across a wide range of fields and explains how geospatial technology works, what it can reveal, who uses it and to what effect. Dave

The Fly in the Cathedral

Brian CATHCART 308pp Hb \$39.95

In the late 1920s, what was known about the atomic nucleus was very limited, to say the least. It was known to be very small (like a fly in a cathedral) and difficult to penetrate with existing tools. To remedy this situation, Ernest Rutherford, head of the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge, set two of his researchers, John Cockcroft and Ernest Walton, the task of building a device powerful enough to let them probe the atomic nucleus. This book tells how they did it - with relatively simple equipment and despite competition from three American groups. It is a very enjoyable read, with an interesting cast of characters and a compelling narrative.

Dave



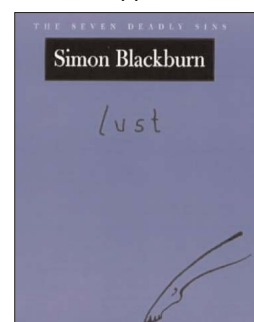
Philosophy & Religion

Lust (The Seven Deadly Sins)

Simon BLACKBURN

151pp Hb \$42.95

Lust, says Simon Blackburn, is furtive, headlong, always sizing up opportunities. It is a trail of clothing in the hallway, the trashy cousin of love. But be that as it may, the aim of this delightful book is to rescue lust "from the denunciations of old men of the deserts, to deliver it from the pallid and envious confessor and the stocks and pillories of the Puritans, to drag it from the category of sin to that of virtue." Blackburn, author of such popular philosophy books as **Think** (Pb \$26.95) and **Being Good** (Pb \$24.95), here offers a sharp-edged probe into the heart of lust, blending together insight from some of the world's greatest thinkers on sex, human nature and our common cultural foibles. Also available in the series are **Greed** by Phyllis Tickle, **Gluttony** by Francine Prose and **Envy** by Joseph Epstein (all Hb \$39.95). More sins to come. Watch this space.



Between the Rock and a Hard Place

Paul COLLINS

256pp Pb \$29.95

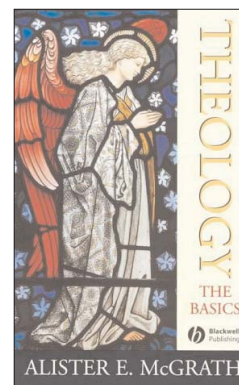
This is not an invective against the Church, but a deeply felt argument on behalf of the many Catholics who now feel disenfranchised. It encourages those holding on to a faith they love (often with gritted teeth) to keep going, and offers a concept of Catholicism through which they can still find deep meaning and stay connected to their Church. Born in Melbourne in 1940, Paul Collins is an historian, broadcaster and writer. In March 2001, he resigned from the priestly ministry of the Catholic Church after 33 years, owing to a dispute with the Vatican's Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith over his book **Papal Power** (out of print). For many years, he has worked in different capacities in television and radio with the ABC. *due June*

Theology

The Basics

Alister McGRATH 192pp Pb \$49.95

Accessible and lively, this introductory textbook introduces readers to key theological issues, such as God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, faith, creation, salvation, atonement, religious history and heaven. Each chapter includes: an overview of one of these themes, presents relevant biblical passages, summarises the contribution of one major theologian and a concluding section which explains how readers can take their study further.

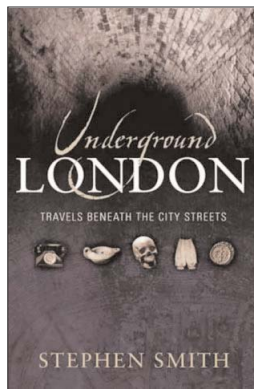


Underground London

Travels Beneath the City Streets

Stephen SMITH 404pp Hb \$49.95

What is visible to the naked eye has been exhaustively raked over. Here, acclaimed travel writer Stephen Smith provides an alternative guide and history of the capital. It is a journey through the passages and tunnels of the city, the bunkers and tunnels, crypts and shadows. As well as being a contemporary tour of underground London, it is also an exploration through time: Queen Boudicca lies beneath Platform 10 at King's Cross (legend has it); Dick Turpin fled the Bow Street Runners along secret passages leading from the cellar of the Spaniards pub in North London; the remains of a pre-Christian Mithraic temple have been found near the Bank of England; on the platforms of the now defunct King William Street Underground, posters still warn that "Careless talk costs lives". Smith uncovers the secrets of the city by walking through sewers and tunnelling under such places as Hampton Court, ghost tube stations and long lost rivers such as the Fleet and the Tyburn.

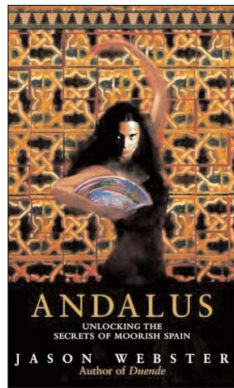


Andalus

Unlocking the Secrets of Moorish Spain

Jason WEBSTER 288pp Tp \$32.95

Webster originally travelled to Spain to learn to play the flamenco guitar, and told of his adventures on the Spanish wild side in the acclaimed *Duende* (Pb \$24.95). Here, he embarks on a quest to discover Spain's hidden Moorish legacy. He unmasks the neglected Arab ancestry of modern Spain (its food, language, people and culture) and meets Zine; an illegal immigrant from Morocco, a 21st century Moor, lured over with the promise of a job but exploited as a slave labourer on a fruit farm. Webster's life is threatened as he investigates the agricultural gulag. Zine rescues him and the unlikely pair of writer and desperado take off on a roller coaster ride through Andalusia. Zine is on a one-man peace mission to resolve Muslim-Christian tensions by proving irresistible to Spanish señoritas. Offering both comic and serious insights, the narrative casts a fascinating light on the rich heritage of the Moors and also strikes parallels with the current world situation; finding echoes of the harmony that existed for so long in medieval Spain and of the religious intolerance that eventually brought about the Inquisition.



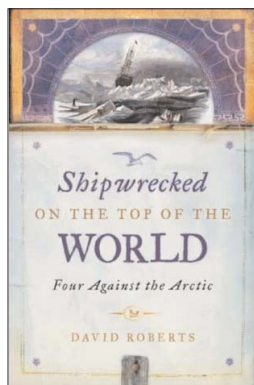
Shipwrecked on the Top of the World

Four Against the Arctic

David ROBERTS

304pp Hb \$49.95

While reading Valerian Albanov's *In the Land of White Death* (Pb \$28.00), David Roberts came across an old legend of four shipwrecked Russian sailors who had managed to survive for six years on Svalbard in the high Arctic. Incredulous, Roberts - an expert on exploration literature - determined to learn the truth about this astonishing story. This book is the result of that quest, a journey that took him to libraries and archives on two continents and eventually to Russia and Svalbard itself. In 1743, a Russian ship bound for Arctic walrus-hunting grounds was wrecked by ice, stranding four of its crew - the only survivors - on a tiny island. With minimal provisions, they endured six years of ice-bound hell: they collected driftwood for fires and with homemade lances killed 10 polar bears (nine of which attacked them) for food. Concluding with Roberts' own four-man expedition to the desolate island where the ordeal took place, this riveting book explores more than just the struggle of men against nature - it ponders the genius of survival against impossible odds which turns a true story into a legend that, centuries later, still fires the imagination.



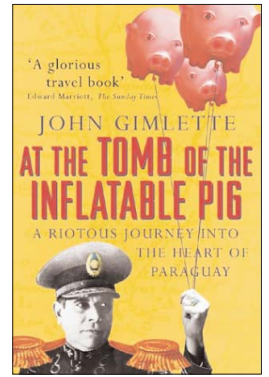
At the Tomb of the Inflatable Pig

A Riotous Journey into the Heart of Paraguay

John GIMLETTE

448pp Pb \$22.95

Paraguay - the name conjures up everything most exotic and extreme in South America. It is a place of hellish jungles, dictators, fraudsters and Nazis, utopian experiments, missionaries and lurid coups. It is not a place for the timid. It doesn't even have its own guidebook. But Paraguay, as revealed in this outstanding new book, is among the most beautiful and captivating countries in the world. The beguiling Paraguayans, despised and feared by their neighbours, are unfathomable. They adore Diana, Princess of Wales, as if she were still alive and hundreds volunteered to fight for Britain in the Falklands War. Their politics are Byzantine but when the Vice-President is murdered, they call in Scotland Yard...



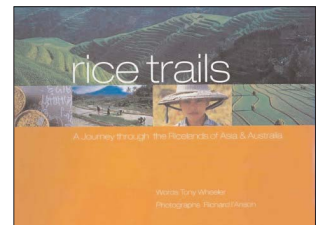
Rice Trails

A Journey Through the Ricelands of Asia and Australia

Tony WHEELER & Richard I'ANSON

160pp Hb \$59.95

As usual, Lonely Planet has managed to produce an amazing book. Through a hybrid of travel photography and history, we are introduced to a little known world. We tend to take rice for granted; the fact that supermarket shelves are veritably pregnant with rice in all its wonderful shapes and flavours is a testament to that. Each page greets you with stunning photos that captivate the imagination, while the accompanying text is as poetic as it is enlightening. Wheeler and I'Anson band together and include you in their exploration of Asian and Australian ricelands, a cultural as well horticultural tour through some of the world's most beautiful places.



Caroline

Miscellaneous

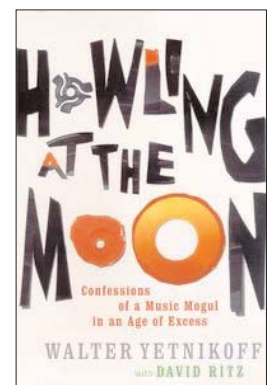
Howling at the Moon

Confessions of a Music Mogul in an Age of Excess

Walter YETNIKOFF, David RITZ

320pp Pb \$29.95

The ultimate showbiz insider's expose, this is the wildly entertaining and brilliantly narrated autobiography of Walter Yetnikoff, head of CBS Records during its heyday in the 1980s, and then the most powerful man in the music industry. Yetnikoff knew most of the stars and embraced all the excesses of this era: he was mentor to Streisand, father confessor to Michael Jackson, shared a mistress with Marvin Gaye and came to blows with Mick Jagger. He feuded with David Geffen and outmanoeuvred Rupert Murdoch. He was also addicted to cocaine and alcohol - until his doctor gave him just three months to live. Yetnikoff came from a working class Jewish family from Brooklyn; he graduated from law school in the 1950s and proceeded to climb the corporate ladder to the very top. His high-flying ended in breakdown, but throughout his rise and fall, he remained a man of huge charisma and disarming charm. Co-author David Ritz, the only four-time winner of the *Ralph J Gleason Music Book Award*, has collaborated on the autobiographies of such stars as Ray Charles, BB King, Aretha Franklin and Etta James.



Who Took My Money?

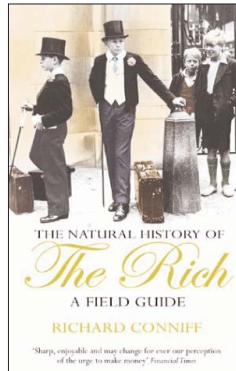
Why Slow Investors Lose and How Fast Money Wins

Robert KIYOSAKI & Sharon LECHTER 304pp Pb \$22.95
Most people think that simply getting a modest return on one's investments is going to take care of them forever, right through their golden years of retirement. But for lots of investors, waiting - and hoping - for a 10% return on their stocks, bonds and mutual funds is turning out to be a long and perilous wait. Building on his **Rich Dad Poor Dad** titles, Robert Kiyosaki shows how you can manage your money in such a way that you can quickly achieve financial wealth with extraordinary returns and amazing growth. Sounds too good to be true? It's not - Kiyosaki and Lechter show how anyone can make the move right now.

The Natural History of the Rich

A Field Guide

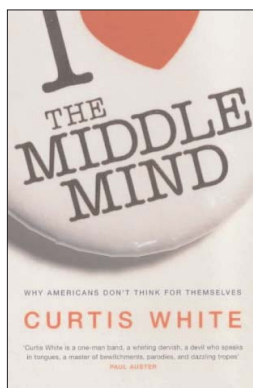
Richard CONNIFF 360pp Pb \$27.95
Journalist Richard Conniff probes the age-old question "Are the rich different from you and me?" and finds that they are indeed a completely different animal. He observes with great humour and finesse this socially unique species, revealing their strategies for ensuring dominance and submission, their flourishes of display behaviour, the intricate dynamics of their pecking order, as well as their unorthodox mating practices. Through comparisons to other equally exotic animals, Conniff uncovers surprising commonalities. How did Bill Gates achieve his single greatest act of social dominance by being nice? How does the flattery of the rich resemble the grooming behaviour of baboons? What made the British aristocracy the single most successful animal dominance hierarchy in the history of the planet? How does Old Money's disdain for the nouveaux riches resemble the pig-grunting of mountain gorillas? This marvellously entertaining field guide captures in vivid detail the behaviours and habitats of the world's most captivating, yet elusive, animal.



The Middle Mind

Why Americans Don't Think for Themselves

Curtis WHITE 224pp Tp \$35.00
What is 'The Middle Mind'? According to Curtis White, it is the dominant force shaping American culture - and as we know, American culture is increasingly our culture too. Providing insights into the absurdity of the US lifestyle, this book calls for a recovery of imagination. Seeping into politics, literature and art, *The Middle Mind* is all about pre-packaged, easily digestible media that requires no thought. And it is creating an increasing inability to properly consider the development of society, or to initiate change. Scathingly humorous, irreverent and far-reaching, this book is for anyone who's ever been riled by current political debate, dismayed by critical theory or bemused by the prominence of Celine Dion in the charts, in a society which promises culture but can only manage TV.



The Mind in the Cave

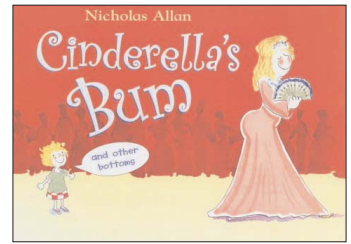
Consciousness and the Origins of Art

David LEWIS-WILLIAMS 320pp Pb \$40.00
The breathtakingly beautiful art created deep inside the caves of Western Europe in the late Ice Age provokes awe and wonder in equal measure. What do these animals and symbols, depicted on the walls of caves such as Lascaux, Chauvet and Altamira, tell us about the nature of the ancestral mind? How did these images spring, sophisticated and fully formed, seemingly from nowhere into the human story? This book puts forward the most plausible explanation yet proposed for the origins of image-making and art. Lewis-Williams skilfully interweaves a lifetime of anthropological research with the most recent neurological insights to offer a convincing account of how we became human and, in the process, began to make art. This is a masterful piece of detective work, casting light on the darkest mysteries of our ancestors and on the nature of our own consciousness and experience.

Cinderella's Bum

And Other Bottoms

Nicholas ALLAN 28pp Pb \$16.95
A young girl watches her big sister trying on her swimsuit and tries to console her when she moans that her bottom has grown. Little sister thinks it's lovely and tells big sister that bums come in all sizes and are useful for different things - riding horses, sitting on thrones, feeling the pea under the mattresses! A cheeky little story that conveys in a light-hearted manner a serious message concerning body image. Ages 4-6.



The Tears of the Salamander

Peter DICKINSON 233pp Pb \$14.95
Alfredo has an affinity with fire and the voice of an angel. Taken from his father's bakery to sing in the choir of the Prince-Cardinal, he meets his mysterious Uncle Giorgio only after the death of his family in a tragic accident. Spirited away to Sicily and a grand villa on the slopes of Mt Etna, young Alfredo is puzzled by his uncle's behaviour. It turns out Giorgio is the hereditary Master of the Mountain and can control the volcano. He wishes to teach his nephew the family secrets - or does he? A well written tale, full of adventure, menace and fantasy. Suitable for ages 10-14.

Who Did That? Number 2

Jill BRUCE & Jan WADE 48pp Pb \$14.95
Footprints and droppings can tell an observer Who Did That. Each creature featured is given 4 pages; the first 2 show the tracks and scats (with the scale given), the next double-page identifies them. With excellent information relating to physical characteristics, habitat, breeding, conservation status and interesting facts, this is the perfect book for the young naturalist. As the author says, you can learn a lot by looking at the ground - and keep your shoes clean at the same time!

An Australian ABC of Animals

Bronwyn BANCROFT 24pp Hb \$19.95

Dinosaur ABC

Simon MUGFORD 28pp Hb \$12.95 (Yes this price is correct!)
Two ABCs, both wonderful in their different ways. Bancroft's clean style reflects her indigenous heritage; bold line, colours earthy and marine, stylised depictions of native animals, birds, insects and sea creatures. For the beginner. The other contains more information and is aimed at an older audience, kids who know and are fascinated by dinosaurs. The style is bright, slightly cluttered with lots of details and uses photographs of realistic models. Pronunciation is also given for those tongue-twisting scientific names!

The Boy, the Bear, the Baron, the Bard

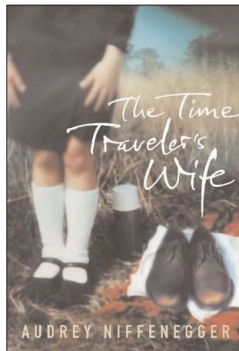
Gregory ROGERS 32pp Hb \$27.95

City Circus

Paul FLEISCHMAN & Kevin HAWKES 32pp Hb \$27.95

These are wordless picture books; again they are both wonderful in their different ways. Each will kindle the imagination, inspiring the reader to make up their own stories. In the first, a boy kicks a ball into a boarded-up theatre and finds himself - where? Chased by the bard, he rescues a bear and a baron, meets a queen and escapes back to his own time. Well that's my story! You have a look and see what you see! Ink and watercolour illustrations provide a visual feast. In the second book, a young girl waiting for a bus notices a sign advertising the circus. Echoes of all the different acts catch her eye - a baker flipping pancakes next to a poster for jugglers, a dentist's patient above the sword-swallowing poster, boys skateboarding past the ad for the clowns and so on. Lushly coloured illustrations overflow with details.

As you have no doubt noticed, Cara does a great deal of reading and has excellent taste. We usually agree with each other, although we agreed to disagree about **Shadow of the Wind**, the big bestseller from Spain by Carlos Ruiz Zafon (\$29.95 Pb). I needed something to read recently on the way home on the ferry, so Cara suggested a first novel by Audrey Niffenegger, a professor at the Columbia College, Chicago Centre for Book and Paper Arts (reason enough to read her first novel). It turned out to be a most unusual, romantic, imaginative tour de force called **The Time Traveler's Wife** (\$32.95 Tp 518pp). Only one 'I' in the title and maybe a little bit long, but absolutely intriguing. You have to pay attention, since Henry the lovely hero pops back and forth from the past to the future and back to the present. He is called chrono-displaced, which is a nice idea. He always arrives naked, which leads to some funny scenes and entails stealing to get supplies. When he is not present, he is described as 'elsewhen', which I think is a good original word. It has an *Australian Women's Weekly* Great Read gold sticker on the front and I suspect it is indeed a book for females. I enjoyed it.



There was a time last month when two of our bestsellers were written by two of our customers. Roddy Meagher's **Portraits on Yellow Paper** (\$25.95 Pb), which all our legal eagles snapped up (fearing to find themselves therein) and Lucinda Holdforth's **True Pleasures: A Memoir of Women in Paris** (\$22.95 Pb 226pp incl bibliography). This is a loving consideration of many famous "salonniers" - from Marquise de Rambouillet and Madame de Sevigne to Colette and Nancy Mitford - interspersed with the author's thoughts about life in Sydney and Paris. If you love Paris, as she does, you will love this. Find this in Travel Literature, where many meditations are now shelved. Think Peter Matthiessen or W G Sebald.

The shortlist for the *Miles Franklin Award* is out, with the winner to be announced 17 June. A great selection this year, including Peter Goldsworthy's **Three Dog Night** (\$29.95 Tp 342pp), Shirley Hazzard's **The Great Fire** (\$28 Pb 314pp), Elliot Perlman's **Seven Types of Ambiguity** (\$35 Tp), J M Coetzee's **Elizabeth Costello** (\$35 Pb), Peter Carey's **My Life as a Fake** (\$45 Hb) and Annamarie Jagose's **Slow Water** (\$22.95 Pb). Frank Moorhouse might be puzzled to find Shirley Hazzard's book on the list? This is an especially hard list from which to choose a winner. I thought Peter Goldsworthy's book terrific.

The *Nita B Kibble Award for Life Writing* by women has been won by Fiona Capp for **That Oceanic Feeling** (\$35 Hb), a meditation on surfing, writing and life. I think you will find this delightful. It is definitely for the general reader, not just surfers. Find this also in Travel Lit. The \$2,500 *Nita B Kibble Award for Debut Novel* was won by Danielle Wood for **The Alphabet of Light and Dark** (\$21.95 Pb).

There is a good exhibition on at the State Library of NSW on the life and works of Miles Franklin. Open until 20 June, so try and visit. Library curator Paul Brunton is editor of **The Diaries of Miles Franklin** (\$39.95 Hb), as well as **Matthew Flinders: Personal Letters** (\$138 Hb), so he's had a lovely time the last few years.

Don't forget we have three separate areas in Fiction: Modern, Historical and Australian. In the latter, do look for Lucy Lehmann's **The Showgirl and the Brumby** (\$21.95 Pb), which has just won the \$7,500 *Kathleen Mitchell Award for Young Writers*. A good story about modern country life.

Have many of you have joined the throng reading Dan Brown's **The Da Vinci Code** (\$19.95 Pb), that complex thriller dealing with biblical themes? Church authorities of all sorts have taken this allegation of a conspiracy cover-up very seriously and are putting out pamphlets and even books to reassure believers. You might like to look at a constant seller in the Alternative Religion section, **The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail** by Baigent, Leigh and Lincoln (\$27.95 Pb), now reappearing on bestseller lists. It covers the conspiracy theory that has descendants of Jesus living in the south of France. Quite fascinating. It's been around a long time and scholars look down their noses at it, but certain famous people, such as Andre Maurois, think there is something in it.

I saw a fascinating press release in May. China, Japan and South Korea have agreed on plans for a new Silk Road to link Asia and Europe, beginning with a link from Tokyo to Istanbul due for completion in 2010. We have many books in the Central Asia sub-section of our huge History area, ranging from popular titles from Peter Hopkirk including **Foreign Devils on the Silk Road** (\$34.95 Pb) and **Trespassers on the Roof of the World** (\$28.95 Pb) or Charles Allen's **Soldier Sahibs: Men Who Made the North West Frontier** (\$26 Pb) to re-issues such as Christopher Baumer's **Southern Silk Road: In the Footsteps of Sir Auriel Stein and Sven Hedin** (\$95 Hb) and scholarly titles such as Richard Foltz's **Religions of the Silk Road: Overland Trade and Cultural Exchange from Antiquity to the 15th Century** (\$46 Pb) or J Kalter's **Uzbekistan: Heirs to the Silk Road** (\$99 Pb), Rene Grousset's **Empire of the Steppes: A History of Central Asia** (\$58 Tp) and E Knobloch's **Monuments of Central Asia: A Guide to the Archeology, Art and Architecture of Central Asia** (\$46 Pb). Then of course there are recent titles such as **Afghanistan's Endless War: State Failure, Regional Politics and the Rise of the Taliban** by Larry Goodson (\$73.50 Pb). Just imagine the landscapes this road will travel through! The press release says "from Finland to Sri Lanka", which is another side street!

Regular browsers in our big History area will know we have sub-sections for both Central Europe and Russia. The historian Norman Davies is famous for his work on Polish history, such as the 2-volume *God's Playground*, now Out of Print. I think this is replaced by **Heart of Europe: A Short History of Poland** (\$35 Pb). I notice in Russian History a re-issue of a book he published in 1972 and 1983, **White Eagle, Red Star: The Polish-Soviet War 1919-1920 and the Miracle on the Vistula** (\$40 Pb 308pp incl index). The "miracle" is the defeat of the Russian army, which was planning to "water their horses in the Rhine". A most decisive battle in European history. Davies, of course, has gone on to greater fame with books such as **Europe** (\$50 Pb) and **The Isles** (\$35 Pb), big fat books which are constant sellers. In the Central Europe sub-section, I have also noticed

A Concise History of Poland by Lukowski & Zawadski (\$39.95 Pb) and **A Concise History of Hungary** by Molner (\$39.95 Pb 370pp).

Talking of sub-sections, some time ago, Peter Milne made a special section for *Holmesiana*, so look at the beginning of *Historical Crime* to find all the books by and about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. I read recently that, at long last, the whereabouts of his private archive had been discovered and the papers were to be auctioned at Christies, so we can look forward to much more fascinating information regarding this most famous of popular writers. Meanwhile, in the *Holmesiana* sub-section, you can choose not only from his canon, but also from pastiches and short stories featuring Sherlock Holmes, Mycroft Holmes, Mary Holmes, Irene Adler and Professor Moriarty. Look also at the books by M J Trow featuring Inspector Lestrade. The new Barnes and Nobles Classic Imprint has a 2-volume **Complete Sherlock Holmes**, which at only \$12.95 each is very good value indeed (as well as having long and interesting introductions).

Did you see the TV special on *Who Killed Alexander the Great*? Perhaps you would rather read a re-issue of a famous book by the famous military historian, J F C Fuller. **The Generalship of Alexander the Great** (\$35 Pb 336pp) was first published in 1960 and is regarded as his masterpiece. Black and white illustrations and nice format. Fuller also wrote **Grant and Lee: A Study in Personality and Generalship** (\$34.95 Pb), in the US Civil War section, and **Julius Caesar: Man, Soldier and Tyrant** (\$19.95 Pb), in Roman History.

I was recently watching the American *NewsHour* with *Jim Lehrer* (weekdays on SBS 5pm-6pm) and there was the reporter standing in his local bookshop next to a whole section headed 'Conspiracies'. This was too much! (On the other hand, we do have many recent books that are hard to classify). We stoutly deny we shall ever have a section headed 'Terrorism'.

Ann has been to visit the Nicholson Museum at the University of Sydney, which is housed off the main quadrangle. Admission is free from 10am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday. They boast the biggest collection of antiquities in the southern hemisphere. Behind a deceptively small entrance is a huge and wonderful museum, packed with treasures; from one-million-year-old stone implements to magnificent Egyptian statues and sarcophagi, and a four-foot-high Grecian urn. Established by Sir Charles Nicholson in 1860, it is Australia's oldest university museum. Around one quarter of the collection is made up of his bequeathment. Currently they have an exhibition called *Ancient Voices - Modern Echoes: Theatre in the Greek World*. The University has been excavating at Paphos, Cyprus since 1995 and the site has yielded important new evidence on the archaeology of theatre production and the architecture of theatres in the Greek and Roman world. We have quite a few titles on this subject such as: **A Guide to Greek Theatre and Drama** by K McLeish (\$39.95 Pb), **Greek Theatre Performance: An Introduction** by David Wiles (\$59.95 Pb), **Look Inside: Greek Theatre** (\$16.95 Pb), **Radical Theatre: Greek Tragedy and the Modern World** by Rush Rehm (Pb \$32.90) and **A Short Introduction to Ancient Greek Theatre** by Graham Ley (Tp \$29.95).

Keep well.

Eve

Abbey's Bestsellers - May 2004

Fiction

- The Da Vinci Code** by Dan Brown (Pb \$19.95)
- Master** by Colm Toibin (Tp \$30.00)
- White Earth** by Andrew McGahan (Tp \$29.95)
- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time** by Mark Haddon (Hb \$29.95)
- Arbella Stuart** by Sarah Gristwood (Tp \$24.95)
- Sharpe's Escape** by Bernard Cornwell (Tp \$29.95)
- Lighthousekeeping** by Jeanette Winterson (Tp \$27.95)
- Girl With a Pearl Earring** by Tracy Chevalier (Pb \$18.95)
- The Tale of Gengi** by Shikibu Murasaki (Pb \$45.00)
- My Sister's Keeper** by Jodi Picoult (Pb \$29.95)

Non-Fiction

- True Pleasures: A Memoir of Women in Paris** by Lucinda Holdforth (Pb \$22.95)
- Eats, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation** by Lynne Truss (Hb \$29.95)
- Portraits on Yellow Paper** by Roddy Meagher & Simon Fieldhouse (Pb \$25.95)
- Sending Them Home: Quarterly Essay #13** by Robert Manne (Pb \$12.95)
- Beat Menopause Naturally** by Maryon Stewart (Pb \$24.95)
- Death Sentence: The Decay of Modern Language** by Don Watson (Hb \$29.95)
- Plan of Attack** by Bob Woodward (Hb \$49.95)
- 1812: Napoleon's Fatal March on Moscow** by Adam Zamoyski (Tp \$35.00)
- Against All Enemies** by Richard Clarke (Hb \$39.95)
- Bastard of a Place** by Peter Brune (Tp \$35.00)

Competition Winners

Congratulations to the winners of Dan Brown backlist packs: David Merewether, Karen Caincross, Bill Starke, Barry Bulleen, Mike Willimas, Nevil Ridgeway, Michael Kelly, Catherine Brigden, Prue Warrilow, Shirley Frizell. Mark Rowley of Alexandria has won 4 DVDs through the Penguin Classics promotion. The winner of the \$300 worth of Palgrave Macmillan titles is Mr S Bartlett of Frenchs Forest.

New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards 2004

Brian Castro won the *Book of the Year prize*, worth \$20,000, for his novel **Shanghai Dancing** (Tp \$29.95). Inga Clendinnen won the leading *non-fiction prize* for her book **Dancing With Strangers** (Hb \$45.00).



Now in Paperback

Arbella: England's Lost Queen by Sarah Gristwood \$24.95

An extraordinary life lost in history: the compelling biography of Arbella Stuart spans both Tudor and Stuart courts, and encompasses espionage, a clandestine marriage, elopement, imprisonment and eventual death in the Tower of London.

Kingdom of Fear: Loathsome Secrets of a Star-crossed Child in the Final Days of the American Century by Hunter S Thompson \$24.95

Hunter S Thompson looks back on a long and productive life. This is a story of road trips fuelled by bourbon and acid, of girls, guns and bikes. He looks back on his dissolute youth in Louisville, campaigning for local office, and what it's like to be accused of trying to kill Jack Nicholson.

Jesse James: Last Rebel of the Civil War by T J Stiles \$28.00

The first serious biography of Jesse James in 40 years - a meticulously researched and stylishly written reconsideration of an American icon.

The Age of Consent by George Monbiot \$24.95

Monbiot is interested in the global mechanisms that control war, peace, trade and development, and his manifesto explores the practical means by which the control of these mechanisms can be removed from the hands of the unelected rich and put into those of truly representative democratic bodies.

The Sewing Circles of Herat: My Afghan Years by Christina Lamb \$24.95

10 years ago, Christina Lamb reported on the war the Afghan people were fighting against the Soviet Union. Now, back in Afghanistan, she has written an extraordinary memoir of her love affair with the country and its people.

The Emperor of Scent: A Story of Perfume, Obsession and the Last Mystery of the Senses by Chandler Burr \$24.95. This is the story of Luca Turin, an utterly unusual, stubborn scientist, his otherworldly gift for perfume, his brilliant, quixotic theory of how we smell, and his struggle to set before the world the secret of the most enigmatic of our senses.

The Peloponnesian War by Donald Kagan \$32.95

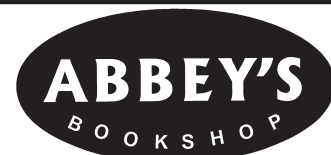
The classical scholar takes a new look at the war between Athens and Sparta, examining the conflict that devastated Ancient Greece in the fifth century BCE.

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey, Michelle Ashman, Caroline Burgess, Sally Denmead, David Hall, Adrian Hardingham, Lindy Jones, Ann Leahy & Cara Willetts.

Binding Key

Pb	Paperback
Tp	Trade paperback (larger format)
Lp	Large paperback (very large)
Hb	Hardback
Lh	Large hardback (very large)
Ca	Cassettes



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