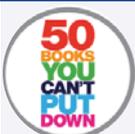


A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

ABBHEY'S ADVOCATE

1968 Celebrating 40 Years of Independent Bookselling 2008

BOOKS ALIVE SEPTEMBER 2009

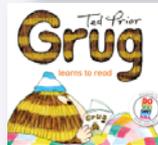


Books Alive is on again and Abbey's is celebrating by giving away a brand new free book! Just purchase any title from the **50 Books You Can't Put Down** guide this month and receive your choice of one of these two free books:



10 Short Stories You Must Read This Year, featuring all new stories by Australia's best writers, including Robert Drewe, Anita Heiss, Toni Jordan, Tom Keneally, Kathy Lette, Monica McInerney, William McInnes, Melina Marchetta, Jack Marx & Peter Temple.

Grug Learns to Read by Ted Prior, this classic Aussie hero is back to enchant a new generation of youngsters.

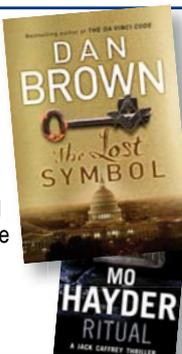


So come in to Abbey's to get your copy of the guide and talk to us about which great book you'd like to read.

FATHER'S DAY 6 SEPTEMBER

The big news is that **The Lost Symbol**, Dan Brown's follow-up to **The Da Vinci Code**, is due for release on 15 September. Give a **Lost Symbol** gift card on Father's Day and not only will you get it at our special price of \$39.95 (save \$10), you will also receive a copy of Mo Hayder's exciting thriller **Ritual** (while stocks last). Plus all orders received before the book's publication go into the draw to win a stunning handcrafted slipcase containing a first edition of **The Lost Symbol**.

See page 3 for more gift suggestions for Dad.

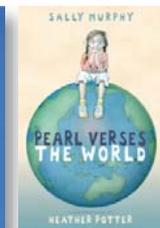
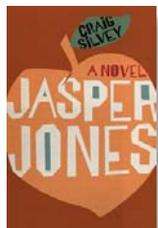


INDIE BOOK AWARD 2009

Now in its second year the *Indie Book Award* is where the country's independent booksellers choose and reward their favourite Australian books of the last 12 months. Panels of expert bookseller judges (including Abbey's Lindy Jones, who judged in the non-fiction category) choose winners in four categories, which form the shortlist. Independent booksellers from across the country then vote to select the best of the best. The top-polling book will be announced as *The Indie Book of the Year for 2009*. This overall winner will be revealed on 28 September and the author will receive prize money of \$15,000.

The category winners shortlisted for this year's award are:

- Fiction** **Jasper Jones** by Craig Silvey (Pb \$29.99)
- Debut Fiction** **The Virtuoso** by Sonia Orchard (Pb \$27.99)
- Non-Fiction** **The Tall Man: Death and Life on Palm Island** by Chloe Hooper (Tp \$32.95, Pb due Oct \$24.95)
- Children's** **Pearl Verses the World** by Sally Murphy (Pb \$14.95)



SEQUEL TO IMPRIMATUR

Secretum

Rita MONALDI & Francesco SORTI 736pp Hb \$39.95

July, 1700, Rome. Atto Melani - once a celebrated castrato soprano, now a spy in the service of King Louis XIV, the Sun King - mingles with other high-ranking guests at the villa of Cardinal Spada. Despite being there to celebrate the Cardinal's nephew's wedding, the main topic of conversation is the grave illness of the Pope and the approaching demise of Charles II, King of Spain.

Charles has no heir and Kaiser Leopold of Austria and King Louis are each demanding the throne, with the Vatican supposedly mediating. Keen to promote his master's cause, Melani sets in motion a grandiose conspiracy that will plunge him into a world of secret languages, religious sects, forged Royal wills... and Europe into war. *Due Sep*



Imprimatur

Rita MONALDI & Francesco SORTI

650pp Hb

was \$39.95 now \$19.95

1683, Rome is a city on a knife-edge. The citizens wait anxiously for news of the outcome of the Battle of Vienna, as the Islamic forces of the Ottoman Empire lay siege to the defenders of Catholic Europe. Meanwhile a suspected outbreak of plague causes a famous Roman tavern to be placed under quarantine. Among those detained in the Locanda Donzello is the mysterious Atto Melani, a spy in the service of the French king. With the help of the young serving boy, he discovers a secret passage leading to a network of tunnels under the city. Their nocturnal journeys into the Roman underworld lead them to some startling discoveries about the deadly enmity between Pope Innocent XI and Louis XIV, and a plot to unleash a weapon of mass destruction in the battle between Islam and the West.

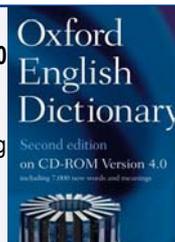


Oxford English Dictionary

Second Edition on CD-ROM Version 4.0 \$495.00

Windows/Mac Individual User Version

The **Oxford English Dictionary** is the internationally recognised authority on the English Language, defining more than 500,000 words and tracing their usage through 2.5 million quotations from a wide range of literary and other sources. The text on the CD-ROM comprises the full text of the 20-volume OED 2nd Edition, plus the three Additions volumes, as well as 7,000 new entries from the OED's continuing research. Now also available to Mac users, version 4.0 boasts superb search-and-retrieval software designed specifically for the electronic version, enabling you to investigate the Dictionary in ways not possible with the print edition. *Due Sep*



Indigenous
Literacy
Day

Abbey's will donate 10% of all sales on Wednesday 2 September to the Indigenous Literacy Project

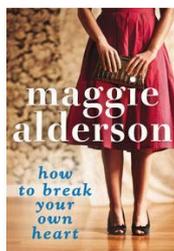
The Indigenous Literacy Project is a unique book industry initiative designed to improve literacy in remote indigenous communities. To help, come in and buy any book from Abbey's, Language Book Centre or Galaxy Bookshop on Wednesday 2 September.

FICTION

How to Break Your Own Heart

Maggie ALDERSON 388pp Pb \$24.95

As she approaches her 37th birthday, Amelia Bradshaw may well have ridden through Paris, in a sports car, with the warm wind in her hair. She is an attractive blonde and although her job in an art gallery doesn't pay very well, that rather suits Ed, her conservative wine merchant husband. He is handsome, wealthy and intelligent, if somewhat old school and set in his ways. They have an enviable flat in London and a cottage in the country. Yet she increasingly feels that something vital is missing from her life – a baby. Should she stay in her safe, yet predictable life, or risk everything before it's too late? This may sound like so much fairy floss, yet I was quite swept up in Amelia's life for a few days, and Maggie has managed to retain the endearing and humorous style of her earlier novels with deeper moral dilemmas. Very enjoyable. *Due Sep Ann*



The Man in the Shed

Lloyd JONES 256pp Pb \$32.95

A boy watches his mother hooked and reeled ashore by a fisherman. A man builds a swing in the backyard to sit between his wife and her lover. A couple gives up their seat on a bus for lovers soon to be parted. A boy sees his mother come to life gliding on roller skates. This is a haunting collection of stories about family and longing. Jones's extraordinary tales take conventional family situations and tilt them sideways, delivering a memorable, beautiful blend of the suburban and the surreal. *Due Sep*



Every Secret Thing

Marie MUNKARA 184pp Pb \$24.95

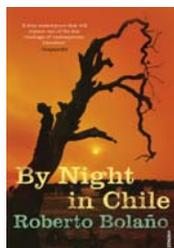
In the Aboriginal missions of far northern Australia, it was a battle between saving souls and saving traditional culture. This is a rough, tough, hilarious portrayal of the Bush Mob, the Mission Mob and the hapless clergy trying to convert them. In these tales, everyone is fair game. At once playful and sharp, Munkara's wonderfully original stories cast a haunting new light on the mission era in Australia. *Due Sep*



By Night in Chile

Roberto BOLANO 144pp Pb \$24.95

During the course of a single night, Father Sebastian Lacroix, a Chilean priest, who is a member of Opus Dei, a literary critic and a mediocre poet, relives some of the crucial events of his life. He believes he is dying and in his feverish delirium various characters, both real and imaginary, appear to him as icy monsters, as if in sequences from a horror film. Thus we are given glimpses of the great poet Pablo Neruda, the German writer Ernst Junger, General Pinochet, whom Lacroix instructs in Marxist doctrine, as well as various members of the Chilean intelligentsia whose lives, during a period of political turbulence, have touched upon his. *Due Sep*

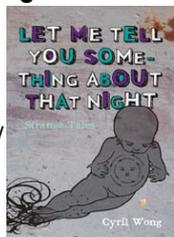


Let Me Tell You Something About That Night

Strange Tales

Cyril WONG 207pp Hb \$29.95

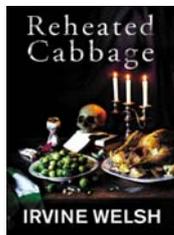
This collection of short stories (and I mean short) is truly bizarre, engaging, haunting and at times perplexing. These are fairy stories for adults, equally dark and darkly comic. One of my favourites is the story of an Elf called Enzo who works in a fast food takeaway, outside the palace gates. He spends his days offering witches to upgrade their meals, while dreaming about a knight he has fallen in love with. There is another called *The Lake Children* where a mother comes to terms with the drowning of her daughter. These stories often don't follow a traditional narrative route and some seem to promise more than they can deliver. Punctuated with illustrations by Jason Wing, this book is for anyone who likes fiction that's a little daring and unpredictable. *Greg*



Reheated Cabbage

Irvine WELSH 288pp Tp \$32.95

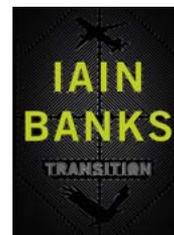
This is a new collection of Welsh's old stories, many no longer in print, illustrating all his signature skills - brutal humour, an ear finely tuned to the vernacular and, of course, unforgettable characters.



Transition

Iain BANKS 416pp Tp \$32.99

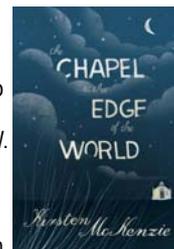
This is an intriguing book, not quite Iain Banks as we know his writing under this name, and not quite Iain M Banks either - a transition in deed as well as in title! There are a number of points-of-view to this multi-layered novel: a patient laying low in a hospital on a world not quite his; a Transitionary, who is trained to enter the various parallel realities to effect changes as directed by the Concern, who intervene for the good of humanity; a state-employed torturer known as the Philosopher; an egomaniac trader in London in our here-and-now; the mysterious Madame d'Ortolan who wants to control the Concern and the even more mysterious Mrs Mulverhill who wants to stop Madame. All these threads come together in an ultimately satisfying way, although the reader does at times just have to trust the writer! Part speculative fiction, part philosophical discourse, but entirely worth reading! *Due Sep Lindy*



The Chapel at the Edge of the World

Kirsten MCKENZIE 320pp Tp \$32.99

Emilio and Rosa are childhood sweethearts, engaged to be married. But it is 1942 and the war has taken Emilio far from Italy, to a tiny Orkney island where he is a POW. Rosa must wait for him to return and help her mother run the family hotel on the shores of Lake Como in Italy. Feeling increasingly frustrated with his situation, Emilio is inspired by the idea of building a chapel on the barren island. The prisoners band together to build an extraordinary building out of little more than salvaged odds and ends and homemade paints. Whilst Emilio's chapel will remain long after the POW camp has been left to the sheep, will his love for Rosa survive the hardships of war and separation? For Rosa is no longer the girl that he left behind. She is being drawn further into the Italian resistance movement and closer to danger, as friendships and allegiances are ever complicated by the war.



Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters

Jane AUSTEN & Ben WINTERS 344p Pb \$24.95

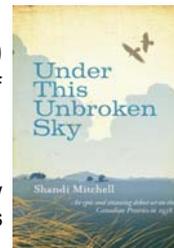
This is an expanded edition of the beloved regency romance, with thrilling all-new scenes of giant lobsters, rampaging octopi, two-headed sea serpents and other biological monstrosities. As our story opens, the Dashwood sisters are evicted from their childhood home and sent to live on a mysterious island full of savage creatures and dark secrets. While sensible Elinor falls in love with Edward Ferrars, her romantic sister Marianne is courted by both the handsome Willoughby and the hideous man-monster Colonel Brandon. Can the Dashwood sisters triumph over meddling matriarchs and unscrupulous rogues to find true love? Or will they fall prey to the tentacles which are forever snapping at their heels? *Due Sep*



Under this Unbroken Sky

Shandi MITCHELL 480pp Tp \$32.99

Set in 1938 on the Canadian Prairies, this is the story of a farming family from the Ukraine who, having survived war and Stalin's labour camps, set out to make a living from an unrelenting land in a new country. The harsh vicissitudes of farming life and tensions within the family combine to generate a conflict that ends in tragedy. This is the harrowing and magnificent tale of an immigrant family whose desperate hands work the earth and preserve its gifts, while equally desperate minds plot much darker deeds. Nearly all is lost when a brother is pitted against a sister, a mother against her newborn, with dramatic and breath-taking consequences. *Due Sep*



Spiel

David SORNIG 256pp Pb \$26.95

Berlin, New Year's Eve. A young architect abandons the apocalyptic heat of a Melbourne summer for the streets his grandfather once walked. Barely off the train, a blind woman invites him to play a game. The Spiel has begun. When the pair narrowly escape a bomb blast, the woman disappears, leaving only the name that has haunted the architect since childhood – Rosa Stumm. But who is Rosa Stumm? In his vertiginous hunt for her, obsession and past collapse, dream and destiny are blurred and imaginations collide. The architect must now face the scars left by the terrible legacy of his ancestry and atone for the life he left in Australia.



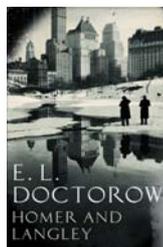
FICTION

Homer and Langley

E L DOCTOROW

256pp Pb \$29.99

Born before the end of the 19th century, Homer and his older brother Langley Collyer, come from wealthy New York stock. Homer - the narrator of this story - loses his sight before he is out of his teens and Langley, who goes to Europe to fight in the Great War, returns scarred physically (from being gassed) and mentally. Their parents die in the flu pandemic of 1918 and the brothers retreat into their Fifth Avenue townhouse, where the 20th century doesn't quite pass them by, but which they also don't quite engage with. Langley is a hoarder, with the ambition to write a Universal Paper, so the townhouse gradually fills with all sorts of junk - and occasionally, with strange people. A wonderful novel, full of verve and ironical observations and the joy of words, written in a believable voice which is slightly old-fashioned and formal at times, as befits the character. Highly recommended! *Due Sep* *Lindy*



Summertime

J M COETZEE

272pp Hb \$39.95

A young English biographer is working on a book about the late writer, John Coetzee. He plans to focus on the years from 1972 to 1977 when Coetzee, in his 30s, is sharing a run-down cottage in the suburbs of Cape Town with his widowed father. This, the biographer senses, is the period when he was finding his feet as a writer. Never having met Coetzee, he embarks on a series of interviews with people who were important to him - a married woman with whom he had an affair, his favourite cousin Margot, a Brazilian dancer whose daughter had English lessons with him, former friends and colleagues. From their testimony emerges a portrait of the young Coetzee as an awkward, bookish individual with little talent for opening himself to others. Within the family he is regarded as an outsider, someone who tried to flee the tribe and has now returned, chastened. His insistence on doing manual work, his long hair and rumours that he writes poetry evoke nothing but suspicion in the South Africa of the time. In this fictionalised memoir, the narrative style is as spare and lean as the Karoo flatlands which form its backdrop. *Due Sep*



Censoring an Iranian Love Story

Shahriar MANDANIPOUR

304pp Tp \$29.99

Sara falls in love with Dara through secret messages hidden in code in the pages of books that have been outlawed, but then something quite extraordinary and unexpected happens. Through adeptly handled asides to the reader, as well as anecdotes, codes, metaphors and cheeky references to the wonderfully rich Iranian literary heritage, the novel builds to offer a revealing yet often playful and hopeful comment on the pressures of writing within the tightly prescribed Islamic regime, pressures that naturally are heightened where affairs of the heart are concerned. *Due Sep*



Guernica

Dave BOLING

374pp Pb \$22.99

In 1935, Miguel Navarro finds himself in conflict with the Spanish Civil Guard and flees the Basque fishing village of Lekeitio to make a new start in Guernica, the centre of Basque culture and tradition. In the midst of this isolated bastion of democratic values, Miguel finds more than a new life - he finds someone to live for. Miren Ansoategui is the charismatic and graceful dancer he meets there and the two discover a love that war and tragedy cannot destroy. History and fiction merge seamlessly in this beautiful novel about the resilience of family, love and tradition in the face of hardship. The bombing of Guernica was a devastating experiment in total warfare by the German Luftwaffe in the run-up to the Second World War. For the Basques, it was an attack on the soul of their ancient nation; for the world, it was an unprecedented crime against humanity. Boling reintroduces the event and paints his own picture of a people so strong, vibrant and proud that they are willing to do whatever it takes to protect their values, their country and their loved ones. *Due Sep*



Bloke

Bruce PASCOE

282pp Tp \$32.95

Jim Bloke's your typical Aussie, sort of. Being an orphan he's done it tough in the past, but he knows how to take care of himself and he has an affinity with life's important things. So when he takes a job as a sea-urchin diver on a stretch of coastal paradise, he's right at home with the morwong, pearl perch and butterflyfish. He's less at home with the people - apart from the woman who works as his deckhand - since the industry is crookeder than your average banker. And because Bloke's already done a season in the big gym, he makes a perfect fall guy when things go wrong.



FATHER'S DAY GIFT IDEAS

Dads will be spoilt for choice this Father's Day. You know you'll be picking a winner if you take up some of the suggestions from our staff.

Greg's pick is David Malouf's first novel in 10 years, **Ransom** (Hb \$29.95). "This new work takes a fresh look at Homer's *Iliad*, concentrating on the relationships and ties between men. There are many wonderful moments to be found in this book, but for me the highlight is the relationship between Priam and his cart driver, whereby Priam is introduced to some of the simple pleasures of life and is exposed to a world he has long been ignorant of. This is the dawning of man's consciousness and Malouf revels in adding his own textures and colours to such established characters. Also worthy of attention are **Masters and Commanders: The Military Geniuses Who Led the West to Victory in World War II** by Andrew Roberts (just arrived in Pb \$26.95), **Wired for War** by P W Singer on the use of robotics in war and **Legacy of Secrecy** by Lamar Waldron (Hb \$49.95) on JFK, RFK and the implications of their assassinations."



Adrian recommends **Sunnyside** by David Gold (Tp \$32.99). "The author of **Carter Beats the Devil** (Pb \$25) does it again: ranging across continents and emotions, this novel spins wildly, but hold on tight. It is enthralling, funny, dramatic and, most of all, humane. **American Rust** by Philipp Meyer (Tp \$32.99) evokes the dark side of the decaying industrial age. Murder, poverty and failed dreams - like Steinbeck crossed with Springsteen. Since its original publication, the story of a screen Tarzan's best friend has been outed as not really being the autobiography of a chimpanzee. **Me Cheeta** by James Lever (Pb \$24.99), now with an author on the cover, is a very funny novel satirising memoirs, celebrity and Hollywood. So much fun it made this year's *Man Booker* longlist."



Lindy says **Cooking with Baz: How I Got to Know My Father** (Pb \$27.99) "is one of the best biographies I've read concerning the father/son relationship. Unvarnished, unsentimental, but full of heart."

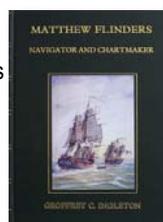


Dave recommends **The Search for the Sydney: How Australia's Greatest Maritime Mystery was Solved** (Hb \$55) which tells the action-packed story of the hunt for the *Sydney* and the *Komoran*, revealing what happened on that fateful day in November 1941. If you missed the fantastic series on the ABC recently, **The Ascent of Money: A History of the Financial World** (2 DVDs \$44.95) is excellent. In this six-part documentary, respected author, journalist and lecturer Professor Niall Ferguson examines the dynamic role of money as he takes us on an epic tour of the financial world. The compelling story of how BHP and its partner Billiton rose from the humblest beginnings in the Australian Outback and on the Indonesian island of Belitung to starry heights on the great bourses of the world is expertly told by Peter Thompson & Robert Macklin in **The Big Fella: The Rise and Rise of BHP Billiton** (Hb \$55). **Balibo** by Jill Jolliffe (Tp \$29.95) provides a unique account of the deaths of the five young television reporters who were killed by the Indonesian military as they filmed the advance of Indonesian troops into the East Timor border town of Balibo in October 1975.



Eve recommends **The Slap** by Christos Tsiolkas (483pp Tp \$32.95), winner of both the *Literary Fiction Book of the Year*, and the *Nielsen BookData Booksellers' Choice Award*. "The stories come thick and fast, and I am impressed by the empathy the author can find for such a variety of characters - from teenagers to mid-life-crisis parents to old retired couples. I admit to enjoying this very much."

A beautiful gift at a bargain price for the nautically minded is **Matthew Flinders: Navigator and Chartmaker** by Geoffrey Ingleton (Hb \$100). This is the definitive work on Matthew Flinders, in effect, a comprehensive survey of much of Australia's early sea exploration, but also a great story of Flinders' adventures including shipwreck in the Coral Sea. Originally published in 1986 at \$195, this is truly a bargain at almost half the original price. Snap it up before it disappears once more.



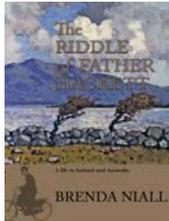
BIOGRAPHY

The Riddle of Father Hackett

A Priest in Politics in Ireland and Australia

Brenda NIALL 252pp Pb \$39.95

In 1922, at the height of Ireland's tragic civil war, Irish Jesuit William Hackett was transferred to Australia by his order. Assigned to a minor teaching post, this seemingly unremarkable newcomer caused no stir. Yet Father Hackett had been close to the centre of the provisional Irish Republic's struggle for independence from Britain; part of the network of Irish nationalists who carried intelligence, ministered to republican troops, spoke on republican platforms, and helped to publicise British injustices and atrocities in Ireland. Now he was effectively an exile. A major figure in the biography, Archbishop Daniel Mannix is seen for the first time in close-up, through Hackett's privileged insight into the private life of the famously aloof and powerful prelate. *Due Sep*

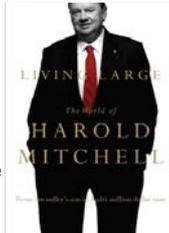


Living Large

The World of Harold Mitchell

Harold MITCHELL 320pp Hb \$49.99

Harold Mitchell's career in advertising started at 17 when he left West Gippsland for Melbourne with £2 in his pocket and found a job as an office boy in an ad agency. In 1976 he opened Mitchell & Partners, now the largest independently-owned media buying agency in Australia, of which he remains chairman and sole owner. Here he recounts his remarkable personal journey from son of a saw miller to the owner of a \$100 million business, rubbing shoulders with Australia's most powerful people. His philosophies about business and life present guidance for young business executives trying to make it in the corporate jungle. With his willingness to speak candidly to the media on any subject and his piercingly astute newspaper columns, Mitchell is a most unusual and multi-faceted business identity. *Due Sep*



Normal

The True Story of a Complicated Family

Julie CATT 320pp Tp \$34.95

Some time during a youth misspent lining up tequila shots and winning wet T-shirt competitions in Columbia, Missouri, Catt might have contemplated the possibility that 20 years down the track she'd be a mother to six kids courtesy of four different paternity setups. Not to mention sobbing to a therapist about her irrepressible white trash heritage. Or that her birth parents would one day turn up, trailing assorted new family members. Or even that she'd find herself living this future on the other side of the world, having followed her hot butch girlfriend to Sydney. But happily married? With a respectable profession? That would be weird... *Due Sep*

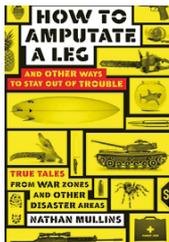


How to Amputate a Leg

And Other Ways to Stay Out of Trouble

Nathan MULLINS 232pp Pb \$24.99

"I remember the advertisement to join the Army. It asked for guys who were fit, committed, tough, volunteer parachutists, comfortable in the ocean, and mature. As a surfer, that sounded like me - except for the mature bit." Mullins is an ex-cop, ex-soldier, ex-security consultant and an Australian Aid International volunteer, so he's experienced all sorts of dangerous stuff involving guns, explosions, surgical procedures, combat, sword-play, rioting and other potentially life-threatening behaviours all over the world. He has been lucky to survive some of his assignments and hijinks so he decided to share a few cautionary tales so everyone else can learn from his near misses. *Due Sep*



Mama Mia

A Memoir of Mistakes, Magazines and Motherhood

Mia FREEDMAN 400pp Tp \$27.99

Freedman was always in a hurry to kick her big life goals. And when she became editor of *Cosmopolitan* at 24 and had a baby a few months later, she thought she was right on track. But when things unexpectedly fell apart, she was forced to face a few uncomfortable truths about who she was and what she wanted to do with her life. Over the next decade, she would experience some dazzling career highs and some devastating personal lows. She would leave the glamorous world of magazines for a high-profile new job that exploded in her face. She would lose all her confidence and then - eventually - find it again in an unexpected place. She would make mistakes at work and at home, and she would learn some surprising lessons about what made her happy. *Due Sep*

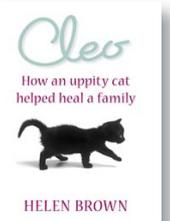


Cleo

How an Uppity Cat Helped Heal a Family

Helen BROWN 304pp Pb \$26.99

Brown wasn't a cat person, but her nine-year-old son Sam was. So when Sam heard a woman telling his mum that her cat had just had kittens, Sam pleaded to go and see them. Helen's heart melted as Sam held one of the kittens in his hands with a look of total adoration. In a trice the deal was done - the kitten would be delivered when she was big enough to leave her mother. A week later, Sam was dead. Not long after, a little black kitten was delivered to the grieving family. Totally traumatised by Sam's death, Helen had forgotten all about the new arrival. She was ready to send the kitten back, but when Sam's little brother Rob stroked the kitten, it was the first time she had seen him smile since Sam's death. There was no choice: the kitten, dubbed Cleo, had to stay. Kitten or not, there seemed no hope of becoming a normal family. But Cleo's zest for life slowly taught the traumatised family to laugh. *Due Sep*

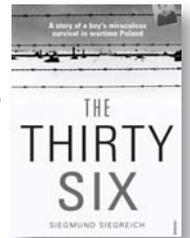


The Thirty Six

A Story of a Boy's Miraculous Survival in Wartime Poland

Siegmund SIEGREICH 352pp Tp \$34.95

According to the Kabbalah, in each generation there are 36 righteous people who sustain the world and preserve humanity... Sigi had just turned 15 and was living a carefree life in Poland when WWII was declared. Within days, Germany crossed the Polish border and randomly, to assert their intentions, exterminated Jews and Poles. The Siegreich family relocated further into Poland, to Bedzin, hoping the war would pass quickly. It was not to be. Within days of setting up in Bedzin, while out shopping for food, Sigi was picked up by German soldiers and taken off with other Polish citizens to dig a large trench. The German soldiers then shot the Polish men, one by one. In the first miracle of his life, Sigi was saved by a man who grabbed him and threw him into the trench before him. He went on to lead the most extraordinary life in order to survive. Operating a bicycle courier service between Jewish ghettos in Poland, escaping from his first work-camp, working with the Polish resistance and, toughest of all, being returned to another work-camp where he was able to use his job in the armaments factory to sabotage the German munitions. Here he also fell in love with Hanka who helped him survive his last period in the work-camp. Just 20 when his camp was finally liberated by the Russians in 1945, he and Hanka determined to live a life of happiness and love. It has taken more than 60 years for Sigi to be able to talk to his children and grandchildren about his life in wartime Poland. *Due Sep*

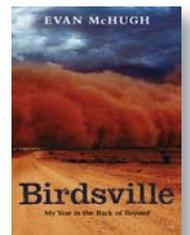


Birdsville

My Year in the Back of Beyond

Evan McHUGH 280pp Tp \$32.95

For a town with 70 residents (on a good day), Birdsville is remarkably well known - the Birdsville Track, the rodeo, the pub and the infamous races. With its ruggedness, inaccessibility and larrikin charm, this small town on the edge of the Simpson Desert has become a symbol of the great Australian outback. What is it about Birdsville that has made it stand so large in our legends? And what's it like to live there amongst the floods and the heat and the dust storms? To find out, McHugh packed up his Sydney home, bought a four-wheel drive and headed off with his wife for a year in the back of beyond. Here, he tells us of the large adventures - midnight desert rescues, aerial mustering on vast cattle stations, relentless heat and massive floods - but also the small details of life in one of Australia's most isolated towns - like driving 700 kilometres to go shopping. As the months fly by, he learns about an ancient culture, sees dunes carpeted in millions of tiny wildflowers and meets the members of an outback community facing extraordinary challenges with quiet determination and buckets of good humour.



Henry Loves Jazz

Stephen LACEY

288pp Pb \$29.99

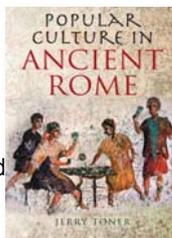
This is a fly-on-the-wall account of what happens when Henry, Lacy's first-born child, comes home. The sleepless nights, exploding eco-nappies, celebrity chef cookbooks, black jellybeans and giant Mexican tarantulas. It is not just about those first months of coping with a baby at 43, but his journey from a childless existence to the dagdom of parenthood, and the discovery of a bottomless love.

HISTORY

Popular Culture in Ancient Rome

Jerry TONER 248pp Tp \$44.95

Much ancient history has focused on the lives, politics and culture of the minority elite Romans. This book helps redress the balance by focusing on the other 95% - the non-elite in the Roman world. It builds a vivid account of the everyday lives of the masses, including their social and family life, health, leisure and religious beliefs and the ways in which their popular culture resisted the domination of the ruling elite. Given the physical and social environment that most people faced, their overall mental health mirrored their poor physical health. Toner also reveals fascinating details about the ways in which people solved problems, turning frequently to oracles for advice and guidance when confronted by difficulties. He illustrates how attitudes to smell, touch, and noise all varied with social status and created conflict and how the emperors tried to resolve these disputes as part of their regeneration of urban life.

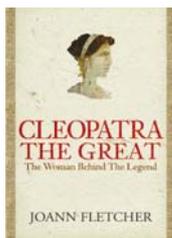


Cleopatra the Great

The Woman Behind the Legend

Joann FLETCHER 664pp Pb \$29.99

This is the story of a turbulent time and the extraordinary woman at its centre. Cleopatra was Greek by descent - the last and greatest Egyptian pharaoh. But our understanding of her has been obscured by Roman propaganda, Shakespearean tragedy and Hollywood, with little attempt to tell her true story. Fletcher draws on a wealth of overlooked detail and the latest research to reveal Cleopatra as she truly was, from her first meeting with Julius Caesar to her legendary death by snakebite. Bringing the ancient world to life, Fletcher reveals tantalising details about the Pharaoh's infamous banquets, her massive library, her goddess outfits, beauty regimes and hairstyles to discover the real woman behind the myth. *Due Sep*

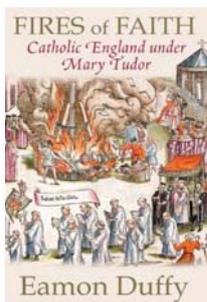


Fires of Faith

Catholic England Under Mary Tudor

Eamon DUFFY 240pp Hb \$55.00

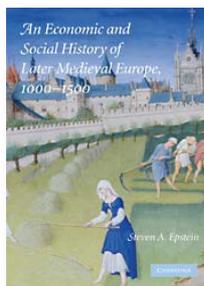
The reign of Mary Tudor has been remembered as an era of sterile repression, when a reactionary monarch launched a doomed attempt to reimpose Catholicism on an unwilling nation. Above all, the burning alive of more than 280 men and women for their religious beliefs seared the rule of 'Bloody Mary' into the Protestant imagination, as an alien aberration in the onward and upward march of the English-speaking peoples. In this controversial reassessment, a leading reformation historian argues that Mary's regime was neither inept nor backward-looking. Led by the Queen's cousin, Cardinal Reginald Pole, Mary's church dramatically reversed the religious revolution imposed under the child king Edward VI. Inspired by the values of the European Counter-Reformation, the cardinal and the queen reinstated the papacy and launched an effective propaganda campaign through pulpit and press. Even the most notorious aspect of the regime, the burnings, proved devastatingly effective. Only the death of the childless queen and her cardinal on the same day in November 1558 brought the Protestant Elizabeth to the throne and thereby changed the course of English history.



An Economic and Social History of Later Medieval Europe, 1000-1500

Steven EPSTEIN 302pp Pb \$49.95

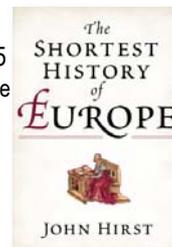
This book examines the most important themes in European social and economic history from the beginning of growth around the year 1000 to the first wave of global exchange in the 1490s. These 500 years witnessed the rise of economic systems and the social theories that would have a profound influence on the rest of the world over the next five centuries. Surveying the full extent of Europe, from east to west and north to south, Epstein illuminates family life, economic and social thought, war, technologies and other major themes, while giving equal attention to developments in trade, crafts and agriculture. The great waves of famine and then plague in the 14th century provide the centrepiece of a book that seeks to explain the causes of Europe's uneven prosperity and its response to catastrophic levels of death.



The Shortest History of Europe

John HIRST 160pp Pb \$24.95

Did you know that the Fall of Rome gave rise to private property and individual rights? Or that, curiously enough, the Roman Empire still existed in the 19th century? Hirst, one of Australia's most innovative and original historians, takes us on a fascinating journey through antiquity to the Middle Ages and beyond, bringing European civilisation to life in all its peculiarity and exuberance. He begins with a look at its basis in Greek and Roman learning, Judeo-Christian religion and a Germanic warrior culture. He explains how this unlikely alliance came about and how, over the centuries, it has contributed to the rise and fall of republics, kingdoms and empires. He discusses the hapless crusades and all-conquering longboats, foreign conquest and the origin of languages, as well as the arrival of such figures as the chivalrous knight, the belligerent pope and the enlightened citizen. *Due Sep*

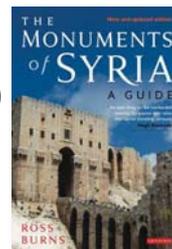


The Monuments of Syria

A Guide

Ross BURNS 376pp Pb \$48.00

Syria is home to some of the world's richest historical and archaeological remains dating from the Bronze Age through biblical and Byzantine times to the early Islamic and Ottoman periods. Yet even in an age of mass tourism these magnificent monuments are little known and rarely visited - in other words, ripe for discovery by independent-minded and adventurous travellers. This fully revised edition is organised as a gazetteer of all Syria's historical sites, with complementary sections on history and architectural influences and comprehensive chronologies and glossaries. It includes the latest information about site visits and the layout of museums, extensive and detailed itineraries for further travel and a new 24-page colour section.

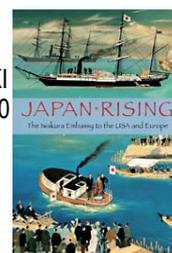


Japan Rising

The Iwakura Embassy to the USA and Europe

Kume KUNITAKE, Edited by Chushichi TSUZUKI & R YOUNG 558pp Pb \$55.00

In 1871 Japan sent a high-ranking delegation to the USA and Europe, to negotiate treaties and trading agreements and to investigate how it might modernise its political and economic institutions. Led by the Foreign Minister Prince Tomomi Iwakura, the 'embassy' of politicians, courtiers and officials travelled extensively around the USA for eight months, before spending a further year examining the British manufacturing industry, German armaments and French culture. The Iwakura Embassy helped change the course of Japanese history, for the official report of this journey, compiled by Prince Iwakura's personal secretary, the Confucian scholar Kunitake Kume, was to play a key role in Japan's transformation into a modern industrial nation. The report was translated into English in five large volumes in 2002. This carefully prepared abridgement makes it accessible to a wider range of scholars and students, and to all who are interested in the remarkable rise of modern Japan.

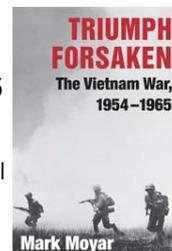


Triumph Forsaken

The Vietnam War, 1954-1965

Mark MOYAR 544pp Pb \$47.95

Drawing on a wealth of new evidence from all sides, Moyer overturns most of the historical orthodoxy on the Vietnam War. Through the analysis of international perceptions and power, he shows that South Vietnam was a vital interest of the United States. He provides many new insights into the overthrow of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem in 1963 and argues that the coup negated the South Vietnamese government's tremendous, and hitherto unappreciated, military and political gains between 1954 and 1963. After Diem's assassination, President Lyndon Johnson had at his disposal several aggressive policy options that could have enabled South Vietnam to continue the war without a massive US troop infusion, but he ruled out these options because of faulty assumptions and inadequate intelligence.



History Week 5-13 September
visit www.historyweek.com.au
History Specials see Page 9

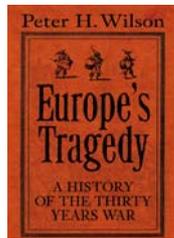
HISTORY

Europe's Tragedy

A History of the Thirty Years War

Peter WILSON 800pp Hb \$65.00

The horrific series of conflicts known as the Thirty Years War (1618-48) tore the heart out of Europe, killing perhaps a quarter of all Germans and laying waste to whole areas of Central Europe to such a degree that many towns and regions never recovered. All the major European powers apart from England were heavily involved and, while each country started out with rational war aims, the fighting rapidly spiralled out of control, with great battles giving way to marauding bands of starving soldiers spreading plague and murder. The war was both a religious and a political one and it was this tangle of motives that made it impossible to stop. Whether motivated by idealism or cynicism, everyone drawn into the conflict was destroyed by it. At its end a recognisably modern Europe had been created but at a terrible price. Wilson's book is a major work, the first new history of the war in a generation, a fascinating, brilliantly written attempt to explain a compelling series of events. *Due Sep*

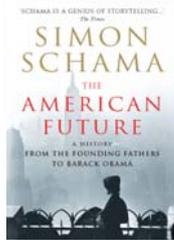


The American Future

A History from the Founding Fathers to Barack Obama

Simon SCHAMA 416pp Pb \$29.95

In November 2008 the United States elected a new President. But the collapse of 20 years of Republican conservatism means the country is already conducting an intense self-examination about the trajectory of its history; how it came to find itself in multiple crises and how an America that began as "the last best hope for mankind" came to be so suspected and vilified around much of the world. Schama, who has spent half his life there, takes the long view of how the United States has come to this anguished moment of truth about its own identity as a nation and its place in the world. In each of the chapters devoted to the most compelling issues facing Americans now – the projection of power (*American war*); race and immigration (*American skin*); the intensity of religious conviction in public life (*American fervour*); the mystique of American land (*American Space*) and its battles with the imperatives of profit – Schama traces the deep history of the present crisis. Cumulatively the chapters build into a history of American exceptionalism, the 'American difference' that means so much to its people but which has led it into calamities as well as triumphs. He argues that if you want to know what is truly at stake, you need to absorb these stories and understand this history, for understanding is the condition of hope. *Due Sep*

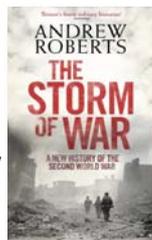


The Storm of War

A New History of the Second World War

Andrew ROBERTS 550pp Hb \$59.95

On 2 August 1944, in the wake of the complete destruction of the German Army Group Centre in Belorussia, Winston Churchill mocked Adolf Hitler in the House of Commons by the rank he had reached in the First World War. "Russian success has been somewhat aided by the strategy of Herr Hitler, of Corporal Hitler," Churchill jibed. "Even military idiots find it difficult not to see some faults in his actions." Roberts's previous book *Masters and Commanders* (Pb \$26.95), studied the creation of Allied grand strategy; this book analyses how Axis strategy evolved. Examining the Second World War on every front, he asks whether, with a different decision-making process and a different strategy, the Axis might even have won. Were those German generals who blamed everything on Hitler after the war correct, or were they merely scapegoating their former Führer once he was safely beyond defending himself? *Due Sep*

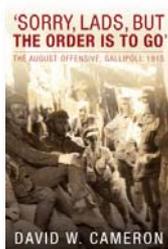


Sorry, Lads, But the Order is to Go

The August Offensive, Gallipoli: 1915

David CAMERON 400pp Pb \$39.95

The August Offensive was the last attempt by the Allied forces to break the stalemate with the Turkish defenders that had developed since the Anzac landings in late April 1915. It resulted in some of the bloodiest battles on the Gallipoli peninsula – which included the battles for Leane's Trench, Lone Pine, The Nek, Chunuk Bair, Hill Q and Hill 971. Drawing from letters, diaries and official reports from both Commonwealth and Turkish sources, Cameron recreates in compelling detail the five days of the August offensive. He describes the complexity behind the battles and how they affected the men who were directly involved. *Due Sep*

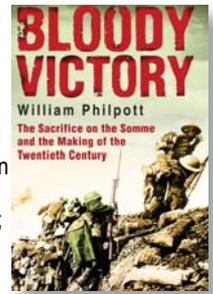


Bloody Victory

The Sacrifice on the Somme and the Making of the Twentieth Century

William PHILPOTT 736pp Tp \$35.00

1 July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme, the hot, hellish day in the fields of northern France that has dominated our perception of the WWI for just shy of a century. The shameful waste; the pointlessness of young lives lost for the sake of a few yards; the barbaric attitudes of the British leaders; the horror and ignominy of failure. All have occupied our thoughts for generations. Yet are we right to view the Somme in this way? Drawing on a vast number of sources such as letters, diaries and numerous archives, Philpott describes in vivid detail the physical conditions, the combat and exceptional bravery against the odds but also captures how the Somme defined the 20th century in so many ways. Moreover, it was the fundamental turning point of WWI in the same way Stalingrad was in WWII. This is an utterly gripping new analysis of one of the most iconic campaigns in history. *Due Sep*

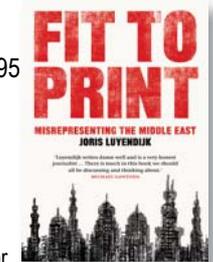


Fit to Print

Misrepresenting the Middle East

Joris LYENDIJK 250pp Tp \$29.95

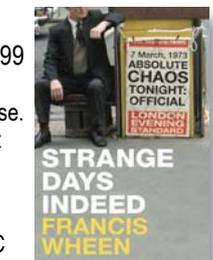
Luyendijk tells the story of his five years as a correspondent in the Middle East. Extremely young for a correspondent but fluent in Arabic, he speaks with stone throwers and terrorists, taxi drivers and professors, victims and aggressors, community leaders and families. Chronicling first-hand experiences of dictatorship, occupation, terror and war, his stories cast light on a number of major crises, from the Iraq War to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. But the more he witnesses, the less he understands and he becomes increasingly aware of the yawning gap between what he sees on the ground and what is later reported in the media. As a correspondent, he is privy to a multitude of narratives with conflicting implications and he sees over and over again that the media favours the stories that will be sure to confirm the popularly held, oversimplified beliefs of Westerners. He deploys powerful examples, leavened with humour, to demonstrate the ways in which the media gives us a filtered, altered and manipulated image of reality in the Middle East. *Due Sep*



Strange Days Indeed

Francis WHEEN 388pp Tp \$32.99

In 1971 Richard Nixon installed a sophisticated voice-activated recording system in the White House. Three years later he became the first US president to resign, implicated in the Watergate cover-up by the evidence of his own tapes. In the spring of 1976, weeks after resigning as the British prime minister, Harold Wilson summoned two young BBC journalists whom he scarcely knew and asked them to investigate MI5's machinations. "I see myself as a big fat spider in the corner of the room," he said. "Sometimes I speak when I'm asleep. You should both listen." Whéen tells the story of how the paranoia exemplified by Wilson and Nixon became the defining characteristic of Western politics and culture in the 1970s, a decade in which the leader of the British Liberal Party stood trial for conspiracy to murder and the West German chancellor discovered that his personal assistant was an East German agent. *Due Sep*

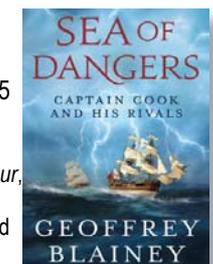


Sea of Dangers

Captain Cook and His Rivals

Geoffrey BLAINEY 420pp Tp \$32.95

Two ships set out in search of a missing continent: the *St Jean-Baptiste*, a French merchant ship commanded by Jean de Surville, and the *Endeavour*, a small British naval vessel captained by James Cook. Blainey tells the story of these rival ships and the men who sailed them. Just before Christmas 1769, the two captains were almost close enough to see one another – and yet they did not know of each other's existence. Both crews battled extreme hardships but also experienced the euphoria of 'discovering' new lands. This revealing narrative of Cook's astonishing voyage casts new light on the little-known journey by de Surville; Blainey argues that he was in the vicinity of Sydney Harbour months before Cook arrived. *Due Sep*



AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

Quarterly Essay #35

Noel Pearson on Education

Noel PEARSON

132pp Pb \$16.95

Kevin Rudd and Julia Gillard have promised an education revolution, but what might that really mean? Pearson argues that nothing is more crucial to future success than a proper education and that too many in our society are being left behind. He discusses what makes a good teacher and recalls his own education, his mentors and inspirations. From here he widens the discussion to consider what works in the classroom, introducing new findings from research and practice, how and why do people learn? He also looks critically at some of the most difficult and controversial issues. Does education for the many mean a lowering of overall standards? Can one teach empowerment? How might school attendance be enforced? Can one teach critical literacy in the absence of basic literacy? What can be done to stop the loss of indigenous languages? Pearson searches for the radical centre, the way forward that combines rights and responsibilities, and ensures that no child will be left behind. *Due Sep*

Griffith Review #25

After the Crisis

Julianne SCHULTZ (ed)

272pp Pb \$24.95

The global financial crisis is different to other recessions. It challenges many economic fundamentals. Its resolution will fundamentally change the world and the way business is done. This issue projects this new future, analyses the causes and historic parallels, examines the limits of the growth and graphically reports what is happening on the front-line around the world. *Due Sep*



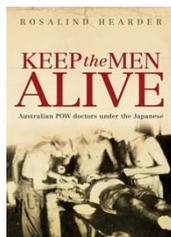
Keep the Men Alive

Australian POW Doctors in Japanese Captivity

Rosalind HEARDER

328pp Tp \$35.00

During WWII, 22,000 Australian military personnel became prisoners of war under the Japanese military. Over three and a half years, 8,000 died in captivity, in desperate conditions of forced labour, disease and starvation. Many of those who returned home after the war attributed their survival to the 106 Australian medical officers imprisoned alongside them. These doctors varied in age, background and experience, but they were united in their unfailing dedication to keeping as many of the men alive as possible. This is the story of those 106 doctors - their compassion, bravery and ingenuity - and their efforts in bringing back the 14,000 survivors. *Due Sep*



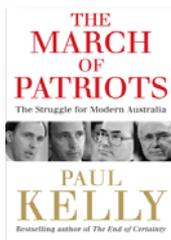
The March of Patriots

The Struggle for Modern Australia

Paul KELLY

720pp Hb \$59.99

Keating and Howard were the first two Australian prime ministers of the globalised age. They were raised together, fashioned by the same forces with careers that paralleled each other. They sought to create a new set of faiths for their parties, Labor and Liberal, in an age where the old beliefs were obsolete. In this sense they were prophets for their tribes offering a fresh interpretation of Labor and Liberal ideology for a new century. Keating and Howard are best understood as change agents, adapting their parties and their nation to a new course. This is the story of two experiments in prime ministerial power and of two leaders divided by temperament, cultural outlook and perceptions of national identity, yet united in much of their economic and social policy. It describes their efforts to devise a fresh policy framework for Australia and to invest their decaying parties with new faiths. *Due Sep*



Under the Influence

A History of Alcohol in Australia

Ross FITZGERALD & Trevor JORDAN 336pp Tp \$35.00

This is a unique look at Australian history as seen through the perspective of the influence of alcohol. Extremely readable and well researched, it shows how the patterns for alcohol use (and abuse) can be traced back to the very early days of white settlement in Australia, taking us all the way up to the present day and our ongoing concerns about teenage drinking and alcohol-fuelled violence, as well as the role of the industry players in the promotion and packaging of an increasingly dizzying array of alcoholic products. Along the way we learn of the social, political and cultural facets of alcohol and it makes fascinating reading discovering what our attitude to alcohol says about who we are, who we care about, and what we care about. *Due Sep*

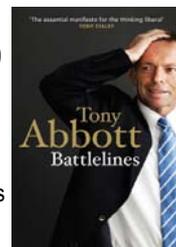


Battlelines

Tony ABBOTT

368pp Tp \$34.99

What's next for the conservative side of politics? Where are new battlelines to be drawn? Parliamentary pugilist and senior Liberal Party figure Tony Abbott offers a lively and frank examination of the way forward for the Liberal Party. Here he reveals insider moments and draws lessons from the dying days of the Howard Government and offers colourful insights about his contemporaries on both sides of politics. He looks at the values and instincts that drive the Liberal Party and maps in detail key policy directions that the party might adopt. This is also the often-humorous story of his own political development. How a would-be priest fathered an unknown son; the truth about politicians' lives; his "days from hell" and his personal dispatches from the halls of power.



Killer Company

James Hardie Exposed

Matt PEACOCK

400pp Tp \$35.00

The real James Hardie died a long time ago and had almost no connection to the Australian asbestos empire that grew under his partner, Andrew Reid. The Reid family amassed a huge fortune as its asbestos company expanded, killing in its wake thousands of unwitting workers and customers. Reid's grandson John chaired the company for 23 years, and oversaw a strategy that ignored the dangers of asbestos and silenced Australia's largest asbestos union and government health authorities. ABC journalist Matt Peacock rips the cloak of secrecy from one of the greatest corporate scandals in Australia's history. His painstaking research, involving newly discovered documents and interviews with over 100 former Hardie employees and other key figures, reveals in stark detail how the company subverted the institutions designed to protect ordinary citizens and how a dedicated group of unionists, lawyers and activists finally exposed Hardie's subterfuge. Peacock has followed the tragic trail for more than 30 years: from the company's factories, to the mine where Aboriginal children played in the tailings and into thousands of houses where Hardie's asbestos now threatens home renovators, not just from their fibro walls and ceilings, but from the dust that still lurks under their carpets. *Due Sep*



Men of Mont St Quentin

Between Victory and Death

Peter STANLEY

320pp Tp \$35.00

At 1.30pm, 1 September 1918, the dozen men of Nine Platoon, 21st Australian Infantry Battalion, rose from Elsa Trench and walked across a weedy beet-field toward the German defenders of Mont St Quentin. Within hours, three were dead and five more were wounded, one of whom died six weeks later. The survivors returned from war, more or less intact, to live through the next 60-odd years in the shadow of that traumatic event. Stanley tells the story of the men of Nine Platoon and their families. This is the first time that this story has been told, made possible because Garry Roberts, the father of one of the dead, was so grieved by his son Frank's death that he obsessively collected accounts of what happened that afternoon. The Roberts' family papers reveal the lives of Frank's comrades and their families as they came to terms with loss and life after war. *Due Sep*



Australian Tragic

Gripping Tales from the Dark Side of Our History

Jack MARX

384pp Tp \$35.00

This nation began its life as a stage for misfortune and ever since has struggled to outgrow its birthright. These are gripping tales that take us into the heart of this country: tales of genuine catastrophe, of grand chances gone astray, of fools and their plans pathetically undone, of heartbreaking sadness and violent loss and of both goodness and human evil. From Aboriginals being curious in an American circus to the story of Martin Bryant at Port Arthur and Bob Bungey, who survived The Battle of Britain, but couldn't face life when his young wife suddenly died soon after he came home - all these stories are told in a gripping narrative style, driven by eyewitness testimony, a solid sense of place, and a mood of impending doom. And we thought we knew our history... *Due Sep*



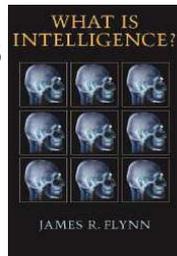
SCIENCE

What Is Intelligence?

James FLYNN 274pp Pb \$37.95

The 'Flynn effect' refers to the massive increase in IQ test scores over the course of the 20th century. Does it mean that each generation is more intelligent than the last? Does it suggest how each of us can enhance our own intelligence? Flynn is finally ready to give his own views. He asks what intelligence really is and gives a surprising and illuminating answer.

This expanded paperback edition includes three important new essays. The first contrasts the art of writing cognitive history with the science of measuring intelligence and reports new data. The second outlines how we might get a complete theory of intelligence, and the third details Flynn's reservations about Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences. This fascinating and unique book bridges the gulf separating our minds from those of our ancestors a century ago and makes an important contribution to our understanding of human intelligence.

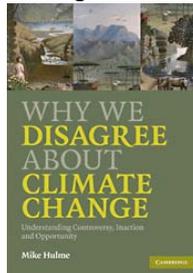


Why We Disagree About Climate Change

Understanding Controversy, Inaction and Opportunity

Mike HULME 432pp Pb \$39.95

Climate change is not 'a problem' waiting for 'a solution'. It is an environmental, cultural and political phenomenon which is re-shaping the way we think about ourselves, our societies and humanity's place on Earth. Drawing upon 25 years of professional work as an international climate change scientist and public commentator, Hulme provides a unique insider's account of the emergence of this phenomenon and the diverse ways in which it is understood. He uses different standpoints from science, economics, faith, psychology, communication, sociology, politics and development to explain why we disagree about climate change. In this way he shows that climate change, far from being simply an 'issue' or a 'threat', can act as a catalyst to revise our perception of our place in the world.

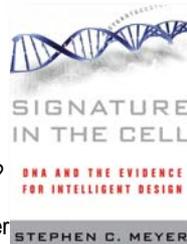


Signature in the Cell

DNA and the Evidence for Intelligent Design

Stephen MEYER 611pp Hb \$56.00

150 years ago, Charles Darwin revolutionised biology, but did he refute intelligent design (ID)? Meyer argues that he did not. Much confusion surrounds the theory of intelligent design. Meyer makes a comprehensive case for intelligent design based upon DNA. He embarks on an odyssey of discovery as he investigates current evolutionary theories and the evidence that ultimately led him to affirm intelligent design. Clearly defining what ID is and is not, he argues that intelligent design is not based on ignorance or "giving up on science" but instead upon our growing scientific knowledge of the information stored in the cell. This is sure to generate heated debate.

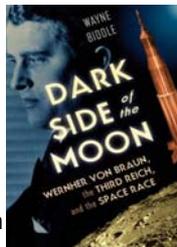


Dark Side of the Moon

Wernher von Braun, the Third Reich, and the Space Race

Wayne BIDDLE 320pp Hb \$42.95

This illuminating story of the dawn of the space age reaches back to the reactionary modernism of the Third Reich, using the life of rocket scientist Wernher von Braun as its narrative path through the crumbling of Weimar Germany and the rise of the Nazi regime. Von Braun, a blinkered opportunist who could apply only tunnel vision to his meteoric career, stands as an archetype of myriad 20th century technologists who thrived under regimes of military secrecy and unlimited money. His seamless transformation from developer of the deadly V-2 ballistic missile for Hitler to an American celebrity as the supposed genius behind the golden years of the US space program in the 1950s and 1960s raises haunting questions about the culture of the Cold War, the shared values of technology in totalitarian and democratic societies, and the imperatives of material progress. *Due Sep*

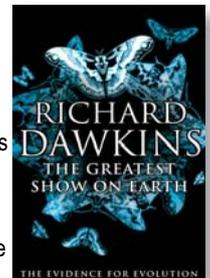


The Greatest Show on Earth

The Evidence for Evolution

Richard DAWKINS 406pp Tp \$35.00

Charles Darwin's masterpiece, **On the Origin of Species**, shook society to its core on publication in 1859. Darwin was only too aware of the storm his theory of evolution would provoke but he would surely have raised an incredulous eyebrow at the controversy still raging a century and a half later. Evolution is accepted as scientific fact by all reputable scientists and indeed theologians, yet millions of people continue to question its veracity. Here, Dawkins takes on creationists, including followers of 'Intelligent Design' and all those who question the fact of evolution through natural selection. Like a detective arriving on the scene of a crime, he sifts through fascinating layers of scientific facts and disciplines to build a cast-iron case: from the living examples of natural selection in birds and insects; the 'time clocks' of trees and radioactive dating that calibrate a timescale for evolution; the fossil record and the traces of our earliest ancestors; to confirmation from molecular biology and genetics. All of this, and much more, bears witness to the truth of evolution. *Due Sep*

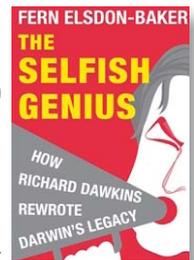


The Selfish Genius

How Richard Dawkins Rewrote Darwin's Legacy

Fern ELSDON-BAKER 240pp Pb \$24.99

Richard Dawkins is one of the most widely read and popular proponents of Darwinism in the world. Yet, as a scientist, he is behind the times, argues this controversial book. Dawkins was not actually a professor of biology but a professor for the public understanding of science. The very first line of **The Extended Phenotype** (Pb \$42.95) reads, "this is a work of unabashed advocacy". Dawkins himself acknowledges that this would not be accepted in a scientific journal. So why is it for a popular science book? He has used his position to publicly attack "unreason" in the form of organised religion, pseudo-science, or new age folly. Elsdon-Baker, a rational pro-science atheist and specialist in the history and communication of evolutionary theory, finds Dawkins' influence distinctly worrying. She argues that Dawkins is publicly misrepresenting science as a whole and asks whether Dawkins is really acting to popularise science or to popularise himself? *Due Sep*

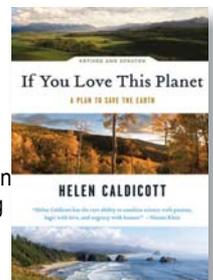


If You Love This Planet

A Plan to Save the Earth

Helen CALDICOTT 320pp Pb \$27.95

"Helen Caldicott has the rare ability to combine science with passion, logic with love, and urgency with humour." - Naomi Klein. From the leader and spokeswoman of the antinuclear movement comes a revised and updated edition of this groundbreaking, widely acclaimed classic. Exploring dangerous global trends such as ozone depletion, global warming, toxic pollution, food contamination and deforestation, Caldicott presents a picture of our world and the forces that threaten its existence. As always, she gives a prescription for a cure and cause for hope, rallying readers to action with the contention that our fight for the planet will draw its strength from love for the Earth itself. *Due Sep*

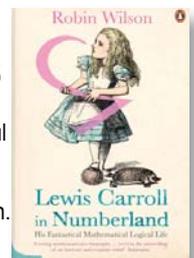


Lewis Carroll in Numberland

His Fantastical Mathematical Logical Life

Robin WILSON 200pp Pb \$26.95

Lewis Carroll's books have delighted children and adults for generations, but behind their exuberant fantasy and delightful nonsense was the mind of a brilliant mathematician. Now his forgotten achievements in the world of numbers are brought to light by acclaimed author and mathematician Robin Wilson. Here he explores the curious imagination of a man whose pioneering work at Oxford University included investigations into voting patterns and tennis seeding, who dreamt up numerical conundrums in bed at night and who filled his writings with problems, paradoxes, puzzles and teasing games of logic. *Due Sep*



The Cloud Collector's Handbook

Gavin PRETOR-PINNEY 112pp Hb \$29.99

This fits into the pocket, allowing cloudspotters to identify cloud formations any time and anywhere. All the common cloud types are represented, as are many of the rare ones, each fully described and illustrated with a range of photographs. Beautifully designed, in colour throughout, and full of the humour that made **The Cloudspotter's Guide** (Pb \$24.99) so engaging, this is the essential reference for anyone with their head in the clouds.



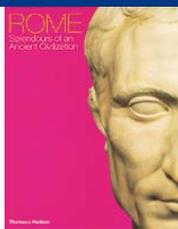
SEPTEMBER HISTORY SPECIALS

Rome

Splendors of an Ancient Civilisation

Anna Maria LIBERATI and Fabio BOURBONLH
292pp Pb was \$39.95 **now \$20.00**

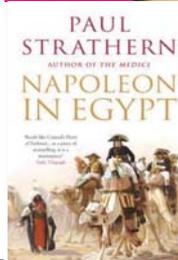
An illustrated survey of the achievements of one of the greatest and most influential of all civilisations. Includes aerial photographs, colour reconstructions with cut-away section and detailed text.



Napoleon in Egypt

Paul STRATHERN 480pp Pb was \$32.95 **now \$12.95**

Napoleon's attack on Egypt was the largest seaborne force ever, however he also took with him scientists and artists intending to bring "civilisation" but discovering much more. Irony, audacity and setbacks for the 28-year-old adventurer.

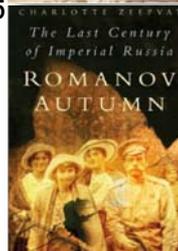


Romanov Autumn

The Last Century of Imperial Russia

Charlotte ZEEPVAT 368pp Pb was \$29.95 **now \$14.95**

The Romanov dynasty ruled Russia for a little over 300 years and its dramatic end exerts a lasting fascination. The author's detailed knowledge of the imperial palaces as they were and as they are today gives the stories life, while her use of archive material casts new light on the Romanovs.

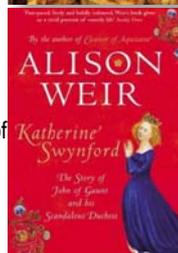


Katherine Swynford

The Story of John of Gaunt and His Scandalous Duchess

Alison WEIR 366pp Pb was \$27.95 **now \$12.95**

Katherine Swynford's charismatic lover was one of the most powerful princes of the 14th century and Katherine was renowned for her beauty and regarded as enigmatic, intriguing and even dangerous. From the author of Eleanor of Aquitaine and Lancaster and York.



A Companion to Arthurian and Celtic Myths and Legends

Mike DIXON-KENNEDY

438pp Tp was \$45.00 **now \$22.00**

Bringing together two of the most fertile areas of myth and legend, this is a unique reference tool which is based on wide research and contains some of the most colourful myths and legends in history. Illustrated and in dictionary format.



The Great Filth

The War Against Disease in Victorian England

Stephen HALLIDAY 249pp Hb was \$59.95 **now \$29.95**

Victoria's long reign may have been peaceful abroad, but at home there were wars against the diseases associated with the increasingly urban population. Forget swine flu, here's cholera, typhoid smallpox and typhus.



Mussolini's Island

The Untold Story of the Invasion of Sicily

John FOLLAIN 347pp Pb was \$27.00 **now \$12.95**

In July 1943, the Allies launched their first assault against Hitler's 'Fortress Europe' by invading Sicily. This is the full story of one of the least known but most dramatic and controversial campaigns of WWII.

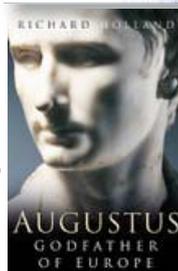


Augustus

Godfather of Europe

Richard HOLLAND 368pp Pb was \$29.95 **now \$14.95**

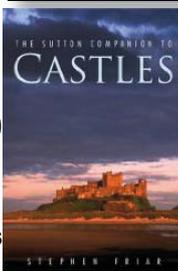
Born in a backwater, Augustus, through his Pax Romana, created a united Europe and enabled ideas to spread through its territories. An able politician, a gambler and at times a vain tyrant, he mixed with history's celebrities (Cleopatra, Antony et al) but has remained complex and elusive.



The Sutton Companion to Castles

Stephen FRIAR 344pp Tp was \$45.00 **now \$22.00**

From quadrangular castles to shell keeps, garderobes and gargoyles to tournaments and anarchy to zig-zag moulding, this detailed and illustrated A to Z reference book, with an index of castles and lists of addresses and further reading, is essential for anyone interested in medieval castles.



ECONOMICS

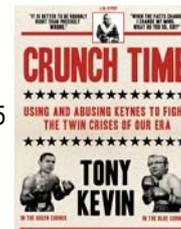
Crunch Time

Using and Abusing Keynes to Fight the Twin Crises of our Era

Tony KEVIN 288pp Tp \$32.95

As the world struggles with the twin crises of economic catastrophe and rapidly accelerating climate disruption, a new urgency has entered into discussions of what needs to be done.

In America, President Obama has launched a massive series of government reforms and economic interventions, linking them with a serious environmental agenda. His inspired adoption of green Keynesianism stands in sharp contrast to Australia's pursuit of short-term economic fixes and its continual downplaying of our environmental problems. Kevin Rudd has announced that 'we are all Keynesians now', but this adoption of Richard Nixon's famous line is only true on the surface. This book argues that we have reached a crunch time and we need to apply the genuine, profound insights of John Maynard Keynes to help feed and employ us while we reinvent Australia as a renewable energy-based economy that will sustain our children's and grandchildren's climate security. *Due Sep*



Dear Undercover Economist

Tim HARFORD 192pp Pb \$24.99

Are there tangible benefits in flossing? Is it wrong to fake orgasms? What does the perfect online dating ad look like? Should we bother doing the ironing? Is it really impossible to buy the perfect Christmas gift? (Other than this book, of course). Economists might not be the first people you would think of to give you advice on such diverse areas as parenting, the intricacies of etiquette or the dark arts of seduction. But for years Harford has been doing just that: answering the most challenging questions in his brilliant column, where he uses the tools of economics to give practical advice about everyday dilemmas, conundrums and concerns. From family rows and the stock market to buying socks or speed dating, you'll find within these pages a witty, and of course rational, explanation for almost everything you ever wanted to know about life. *Due Sep*

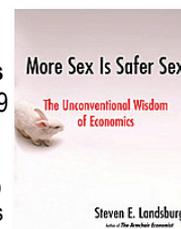


More Sex is Safer Sex

The Unconventional Wisdom of Economics

Steven LANDSBURG 288pp Pb \$24.99

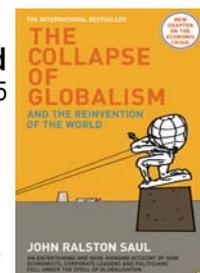
Landsburg has been leading the pack of economists who are transforming their science from a drab meditation on graphs and charts into a fascinating window on human nature. He offers readers a series of stimulating discussions that all flow from one unsettling fact. Combining the rational decisions of each of us often produces an irrational result for all of us. Avoiding casual sex can actually encourage the spread of diseases. To solve population pressures, we need more people. In his tantalising, entertaining narrative, he guides us through these shocking notions by the light of compelling logic and evidence and makes suggestions along the way: Why not charge juries if a convicted felon is exonerated? Why not let firemen keep the property they rescue? As entertaining as it is inflammatory, this book will make readers think about their decisions in unforgettable ways and spark debate over much that we all take for granted.



The Collapse of Globalism and the Reinvention of the World

John Ralston SAUL 338pp Pb \$26.95

In 1999, Saul began arguing that Globalism was collapsing. In 2005, he laid out this scenario in *The Collapse of Globalism*. In this new edition he shows how today's crisis came about and suggests what to do next. Describing the financial crisis as a mere boil to be lanced, the far more serious problem is that the West remains stuck on outdated ideas of growth, wealth creation and trade expansion. Whereas public policy is still dominated by the people who created this crisis, he envisions a new sort of wealth creation and growth and advocates new forms of action. *Due Sep*



The Black Book of Colors

Menena COTTIN & Rosana FARIA

Hb \$19.95

First published in Mexico, this book has won international awards. It is entirely formed with raised black lines on black, with Braille lettering as well, to give sighted people an idea of how to read by touch. It describes the world in terms of our other senses and describes colours through quite beautiful imagery, which is then complemented by the tactile lines. It is hard to describe an illustrated book in a review at the best of times, but take my word for it, this is one of the most amazing picture book experiences I've come across! One for all ages.



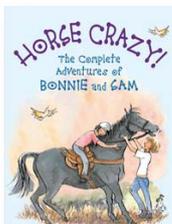
Horse Crazy!

The Complete Adventures of Bonnie and Sam

Alison LESTER & Roland HARVEY

256pp Pb \$19.99

I've always liked these stories about Bonnie and Sam and their love for horses in a small Australian country town. They are perfect for young girls who are gaining confidence in reading alone, and particularly for the girl who prefers to read books about people and animals rather than monsters and magic. Harvey's illustrations convey the essence of the bush, and the personalities of the horses as well as Bonnie and Sam; and Lester's writing style is assured and easy, and the adventures reassuringly resolved. Excellent at any price, but this omnibus is particularly good value! *Due Sep*



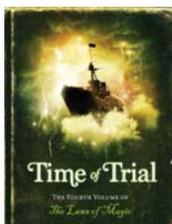
Time of Trial

Laws of Magic #4

Michael PRYOR

Pb \$17.95

I've loved this series from the first, and one of the reasons is because it has not flagged, is wonderfully imaginative, and each new book is a delight. It's a true pleasure when the books get better, the characters more interesting and the action keeps flowing! So it is with this fourth adventure. Aubrey thinks he may have found the answer to the dilemma of keeping his soul attached to his body, but of course, nothing is as it appears. Deciding that he has to confront the nefarious Dr Tremaine, luckily a symposium being held in Holmland offers him the chance to do so! As always, George faithfully tags along, there is intrigue, danger, Caroline's timely interventions, enemies and various magic laws to be used. Dashes along at a lively pace and will not disappoint! *Due Sep*



The Hunger Games #2

Catching Fire

Suzanne COLLINS

480pp Pb \$18.99

Much to my shame (well, I have a LOT of books to read!!) I missed reading **The Hunger Games** (Pb \$18.99) when it first came out. When I did just recently read it, I thoroughly enjoyed it - so much so that I was glad I only had a month to wait for the next in this trilogy. At the time of writing this, I haven't finished #2 yet and I'm resenting the fact I have to work rather than finish it! Katniss Everdeen is a good strong female character and Peeta Mellark is an interesting male character. Together they have beaten the odds and survived the Hunger Games, so life should be easier now - they and their families should be leading a life of ease and plenty. But Katniss and Peeta have to do a victory tour and it seems they are being used as the symbols of rebellion against the corrupted and powerful Capitol - and the Capitol is not amused. Having been made fools of once, they are looking for any opportunity for revenge... Thrilling stuff, not very sophisticated, but very involving! 12+

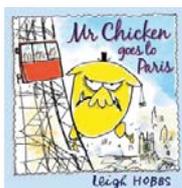


Mr Chicken Goes to Paris

Leigh HOBBS

32pp Hb \$24.99

Mr Chicken (Monsieur Poulet) loves to travel, so when his French pen-pal invites him to visit, he consults his maps and guides, like any good traveller and sets off for a marvellous day in Paris. With Yvette, he visits all the places he knows from pictures in books - the Arc de Triomphe, the Musee du Louvre, Tour Eiffel, Chateau de Versailles, Cathedrale Notre Dame de Paris - having a wonderful time. He is blissfully unaware, though, that he is the centre of attention wherever he goes - well a 4m high chicken in a top hat is bound to be news! Exuberant, slightly anarchic and highly amusing!



ART

Women of Flowers

Botanical Art in Australia from the 1830s to the 1960s

Leonie NORTON

120pp Lp \$34.95

This beautiful book pays tribute to the female colonial artists who drew and painted the indigenous wildflowers and plants of Australia. It focuses on the rich holdings of albums, sketchbooks and paintings in the Pictures Collection of the National Library of Australia, as well as works from other major collecting institutions. Each chapter presents a short biography of an artist, followed by a 'portfolio' section of images, in a similar layout to **A Brush with Birds** (Lp \$34.95). Artists include: Marianne Collinson Campbell, Ellis Rowan, Dorothy English Paty, Ida McComish and Louisa Ann Meredith. *Due Sep*



Australia's Wild Places

Roger McDONALD

124pp Hb \$39.95

Drawing on the extensive collection of the National Library of Australia, this book highlights the fingerprints humans have left on our landscape through the lenses of some of Australia's greatest photographers. From the drama of bush scapes to the untouched rocky crags of Western Australia and the serenity of the Tasmanian rainforest, the works collected here trace the development of photography and a nation's environmental awareness from the early 1800s to the present day. *Due Sep*

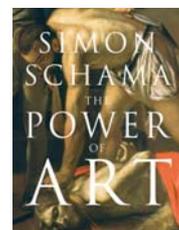


The Power of Art

Simon SCHAMA

448pp Tp \$49.95

"Great art has dreadful manners..." Schama observes at the start of his epic exploration of the power, and whole point, of art. "The hushed reverence of the gallery can fool you into believing masterpieces are polite things, visions that soothe, charm and beguile, but actually they are thugs. Merciless and wily, the greatest paintings grab you in a headlock, rough up your composure and then proceed in short order to re-arrange your sense of reality..." With the same disarming force, Schama jolts us far from the comfort zone of the hushed art gallery and closes in on intense make-or-break turning points in the lives of eight great artists who, under extreme stress, created something unprecedented, altering the course of art for ever. The embattled heroes - Caravaggio, Bernini, Rembrandt, David, Turner, Van Gogh, Picasso and Rothko - faced crisis with steadfast defiance. The masterpieces they created challenged convention, shattered complacency, shifted awareness and changed the way we look at the world. Schama explores the dynamic personalities of the artists and the spirit of the times they lived through, capturing the flamboyant theatre of bourgeois life in Amsterdam, the passion and paranoia of Revolutionary Paris, and the carnage and pathos of civil-war Spain. *Due Sep*



In Vogue

50 Years of Australian Style

Kirstie CLEMENTS & Lee TULLOCH

320pp Hb \$59.99

This lavish, beautiful book showcases the best of Australia's leading fashion magazine: photography by Helmut Newton, Norman Parkinson, Deborah de Turbeville, Monty Coles, Graham Shearer and Richard Bailey, and the images of the women who inspired them: Maggie Tabberer, Elle MacPherson, Emma Balfour, Gemma Ward and Catherine McNeil among others; fashion icons from Norma Tullo and Jenny Kee to Collette Dinnigan; artistic collaborations, including the guest editorships of Baz Luhrmann, Karl Lagerfeld, Kylie Minogue and a spectrum of Australian artists, musicians, actors, writers and thinkers. *Due Sep*

My Name is Charles Saatchi and I am an Artoholic

Everything You Need to Know About Art, Ads, Life, God and Other Mysteries and Weren't Afraid to Ask

Charles SAATCHI

160pp Pb \$14.95

This book brings together the answers to almost 200 questions Charles Saatchi, the world's most influential art collector of the last 30 years, has been asked by journalists and visitors to his gallery. Whether the questions are related to art or his personal life, he answers them all with disarming and sometimes brutal frankness, creating an entertaining and enlightening portrait of a famously publicity shy man, and offering a unique insight into today's art world.

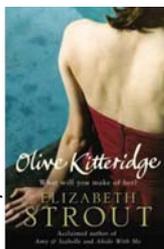
MY NAME IS CHARLES SAATCHI AND I AM AN ARTOHOLIC

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ART, ADS, LIFE, GOD AND OTHER MYSTERIES - AND WEREN'T AFRAID TO ASK...

PHAIDON

NEWS FROM EVE ABBEY

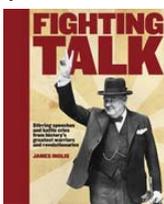
I've read and enjoyed the 2009 *Pulitzer Prize*-winner by Elizabeth Strout, **Olive Kitteridge: What Will You Make of Her?** (\$22.99 Pb 270pp). It is actually a collection of short stories set in a small Maine coastal town. Olive Kitteridge appears in all the stories – sometimes just passing through. It is a most intriguing format, a way to build up a changing picture of this strong main character. You certainly do think of her after you have finished the book. Recommended.



What can we do with a Special Order not collected?

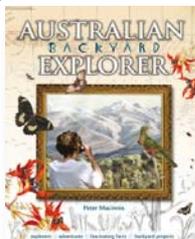
Try to sell it, of course. Here's a rather unusual one, with a terrible price. **Centre for Fortean Zoology Year Book 1997** (Pb 200pp), plus some advertisements for the Centre, edited by Jonathan Downes and Graham Inglis. It was \$70, but you can have it at half price simply for knowing what Fortean means! I think it refers to obscure or fanciful animals? (Perhaps the Black Panther in the Blue Mountains?) On further investigation, I find that Fortean refers to the works of Charles Fort, an American writer in the 1930s who wrote about weird and inexplicable things for which science had no answer. And, believe it or not, Abbey's has a copy of **The Complete Works of Charles Fort** (\$75 Pb 1,126pp) published by Dover, as well as **The Book of the Damned: The Collected Works of Charles Fort** (\$24.95 Pb 1,125pp), the Penguin edition of this book which paved the way for paranormal investigations. Theodore Dreiser was a great admirer of Fort and helped found the original Fortean Society in New York.

As I write this, ABC is inviting people to take part in a series of speeches. What a good idea! Upstairs in Reference, you will find many useful books to guide your thinking, such as **Fighting Talk: Stirring Speeches and Battle Cries from History's Greatest Warriors and Revolutionaries** by James Inglis (\$45 Pb 368pp), which contains famous speeches as well as comments on how the speeches were arranged and the verbal tricks that could be used; or **Great Speeches of the Twentieth Century** (\$39.95 Pb), which contains speeches by both men and women. We also have many books of quotations, such as **The Yale Book of Quotations** (\$95 Hb 217pp), arranged by author, which has a useful cross reference and keyword index. What about the **Metaphors Dictionary** (\$55 Hb 612pp), which has over 6,500 comparative phrases, including their sources. Or established standbys such as **The Oxford Dictionary of Humorous Quotations** edited by Ned Sherrin (\$65 Hb, \$42.95 Pb 576pp) or **The Oxford Dictionary of Modern Quotations** (\$69.95 Hb 496pp). And there is always a clue for an idea in one of my favourite books: **Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable**. The 17th edition of this indispensable reference to popular and scholarly allusions was published in December 2005 (\$69.99 Hb, \$55 Pb, 1560pp). Coming soon is the 18th edition, updated for things like blogs and designer babies. This will be 1,488 pp and still \$69.99 Hb. Treat yourself or a friend. Abbey's has them all.

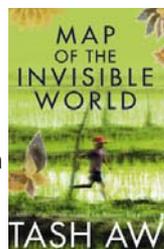


While browsing through Reference, I came across a book called **Gallimaufry** (\$42.95 Hb, \$26.95 Pb 288pp). Well what's that I wondered? The subtitle is **A Hodgepodge of Our Vanishing Vocabulary** and that's what it is. When did you last hear someone talk about the wireless? And what was the original paraphernalia? Nice idle fun.

If it's September, surely Christmas can't be far away, so is it time to start hiding parcels in the cupboards? Spend some time choosing good books for your smaller friends. I especially like yet another scientific book by Peter MacInnis, previously a science teacher and now a ranger. It is **Australian Backyard Explorer** (\$29.95 Pb 190pp incl index). This large format paperback contains camping tips and instructions for experiments, as well as extracts from the diaries of famous explorers, together with mountains of fascinating information about the outdoors and the history of exploration in Australia. Even how to keep your own journal. Suitable for any age from eight to 80.

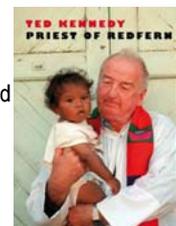


A few years ago, I read and enjoyed a first novel by a young Malaysian now living in London, Tash Aw. It was called **The Harmony Silk Factory** and was set in Malaya during WWII. He now has another novel out called **Map of the Invisible World** (\$32.99 Tp 342pp). Set in Indonesia during the 1960s, it concerns a young man, adopted by a Dutch settler, who has been separated from his older, rebellious brother who has been adopted into a rich and powerful family. It's nice to read about another place written by a local, isn't it?



Although I seldom mention it, we have a very busy Business Studies section and a recent arrival is **The Body Corporate Handbook: A Guide to Buying, Owning and Living in a Strata Scheme or Owners Corporation in Australia** by Stephen Raff (\$32.95 Pb 251pp incl index). The author has more than 20 years experience on committees of management, so he is able to give you good advice and good warning too. I think many people will find this indispensable. Another useful book is **Superannuation for Dummies** by Trish Power (\$39.95 Pb 487pp), an Australian edition. Another Australian publication is **Flirting with Finance: The Modern Woman's Guide to Financial Freedom** by Anneli Knight & Virginia Graham (\$29.95 Pb 208pp). For real professionals, we have **Reinventing Project Management: The Diamond Approach to Successful Growth and Innovation** by Shenhar & Dvir (\$60 Hb 276pp incl index).

We have copies of a good little book by that elegant writer, Edmund Campion. It grew out of his obituary for Father Ted Kennedy and is called **Ted Kennedy: Priest of Redfern** (\$24.95 Pb 201pp). This will be of interest to people involved in aboriginal affairs and also the internal workings of the Catholic Church in Sydney. It is always rather surprising to read history which has taken place in our own lifetime. Acknowledgement is given to many other people, such as Mum Shirl, who have been active figures in the changing scene at The Block.



We have copies of the biography **Freda: A Biography of Freda Whitlam** by Noelene Martin (\$27.45 Pb 320pp). This has been privately published, so it won't be everywhere. I can wholeheartedly recommend it. Not only does it give a vivid picture of life in the slowly developing Canberra, it is a disarmingly frank, yet sympathetic, portrait of a remarkable woman. Despite a seeming lack of family interest in her education, after WWII Freda attended Yale University on a Fulbright Scholarship to complete a Master of Education. After many adventures, she became Principal of Presbyterian Ladies College, Croydon, where she served, often under attack, for 18 years. A devout Christian, she became the first female Moderator of the Uniting Church and one of the founders of the University of the Third Age and the University of Western Sydney. She was either loved or loathed, and of course suffered because she was the sister of 'that man'! A most enjoyable book.

I realise I hardly ever mention our Health and Medicine section, I suppose mainly because most titles are stocked as single copies, but here is one that deserved more space and one which will interest a great many people. It is **Insomniac** by Gayle Green (\$35 Pb 402pp incl index). This is a serious book written by a Professor of Literature. A life-long insomniac, she has investigated an amazing array of remedies, from sleeping pills to alternative therapies, so you can make a good choice for yourself. Good Luck and Good Sleeping!

Have you noticed our African History section? A recent unusual addition is **Madagascar: A Short History** by Randrianga & Ellis (\$49.95 Pb 256pp). Madagascar is double the size of Great Britain and home to unique species of plants and animals. Only 17 million people live there. It seems a very remote place to me. We also have **A History of Modern Tunisia** by Perkins (\$49.95 Pb 360pp), which would be useful for would-be travellers to that area, and **A History of Modern Sudan** by Robert Collins (\$45 Pb 360pp). I don't suggest anyone travel there!

I have found our Australian version of Bill Bryson, so I recommend to you Michael McGirr's latest book, **The Lost Art of Sleep** (\$32.99 Pb 296pp). Here is someone who can weave information and opinion into a gently humorous good story, and with an idiosyncratic, personal and charming touch. Michael McGirr was for some time a Jesuit priest, then left the Church to marry and within two years he and his wife had not one child but also twins, so you will understand the book's title! He talks about The Odyssey, he talks about Thomas Edison, and he talks about Aristotle and Florence Nightingale, and he talks about life in a small country town. A very companionable book. It is a puzzle where to put it on the shelves. I think it should stay on New Titles for a long time!

We have copies of the 2009 Complete Catalog for Loeb Classical Library. If you would like one, please ask at the counter or email books@abbey.com.au. Language Book Centre has recently sent out their third Language Link newsletter for 2009. If you are a language teacher and would like to receive this, please email your details to language@abbey.com.au or ask for a copy when you're in the shop.

Are you interested in Biography? If so, you may like to attend the 2009 Seymour Lecture in Biography. Professor David Day, biographer of Curtin, Chifley and Fisher, will be the speaker this year on Friday 11 September at 6pm, ground floor of the University of Technology, Sydney. Lectures are free and open to the public.

Keep well,

Eve

ABBEY'S BESTSELLERS AUGUST 2009

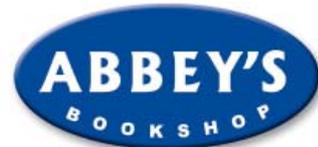
Non-Fiction

- 1 **Macquarie PEN Anthology of Australian Literature** edited by Nicholas Jose (Hb \$69.99)
- 2 **Wolf: How One German Raider Terrorised Australia and the Southern Oceans in the First World War** by Richard Guillatt & Peter Hohnen (Tp \$34.95)
- 3 **Up from the Mission: Selected Writings** by Noel Pearson (Tp \$34.95)
- 4 **D-Day: The Battle for Normandy** by Antony Beevor (Hb \$59.95)
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- 9 **Enemies of the State** by Tim Priest (Pb \$29.95)
- 10 **Soul of the Age: The Life, Mind and World of William Shakespeare** by Jonathan Bate (Pb \$26.95)

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- 7 **Revolutionary Road** Richard Yates (Pb \$24.95)
- 8 **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society** by Mary Ann Shaffer & Annie Barrows (Pb \$23.99)
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- 10 **Chicago** by Alaa Al Aswany (Pb \$24.99)

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Lp	Large paperback (very large)
Hb	Hardback
Bb	Board Book
Lh	Large hardback (very large)



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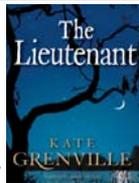
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