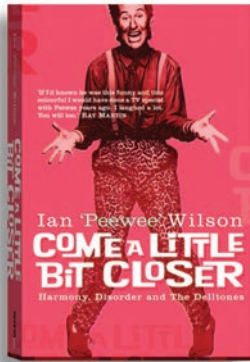


Catalogue

Coming Soon



Come a Little Bit Closer

Harmony, Disorder and The Delltones

Ian 'Peewee' Wilson

In this breezy and brilliant memoir, Peewee recalls the highs and inimitable lows of life fronting Australia's iconic vocal group, The Delltones.

'If I had known he was this funny and this colourful I would have done a TV special with Peewee years ago. I laughed a lot. You will too.' **Ray Martin**

'There's nothing pee or wee about Wilson. We're talking about a giant talent. Thanks for all the songs Peewee – and for all the laughs.' **Phillip Adams**

March 2013

Category: Memoir

304 pp. RRP: \$24.95 (paperback)

ISBN: 978-0-9873773-7-1



A Flower Between the Cracks

A Memoir of Love, Hope and Disability

Helen Sage

When Helen's daughter is involved in a catastrophic car accident, her life and the lives of her family are irrevocably changed. Never has a memoir spoken of the complexity of caring for a disabled loved one with such grace and candour. This is a book for all Australians.

'An eye-opening, heart-bruising account of what happens after miraculous survival. Sad but never maudlin, hopeful but never trite, this is a gorgeously told true story about tragedy, resilience and life's surprising moments of poetry and grace.'

Emily Maguire

April 2013

Category: Memoir

304 pp. RRP: \$29.95 (hardback)

ISBN: 978-0-9873773-9-5



January 2013
 Category: Biography
 304 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)
 ISBN: 978-0-9873085-3-5
 Rights: Worldwide

Joyful Strains

Making Australia Home

Kent MacCarter & Ali Lemer (Eds.)

‘From the affectionate to the bitter to the hilariously funny to the probingly intelligent, this is a collection not to be missed.’ **JM Coetzee**

‘These are intelligent, personal and elegant accounts of what it means to leave, what it means to arrive and how it feels to stay. Joyful Strains is undoubtedly a place worth visiting.’ *Saturday Age*

‘Compulsory reading.’ **Stephen Romei**, *The Australian*

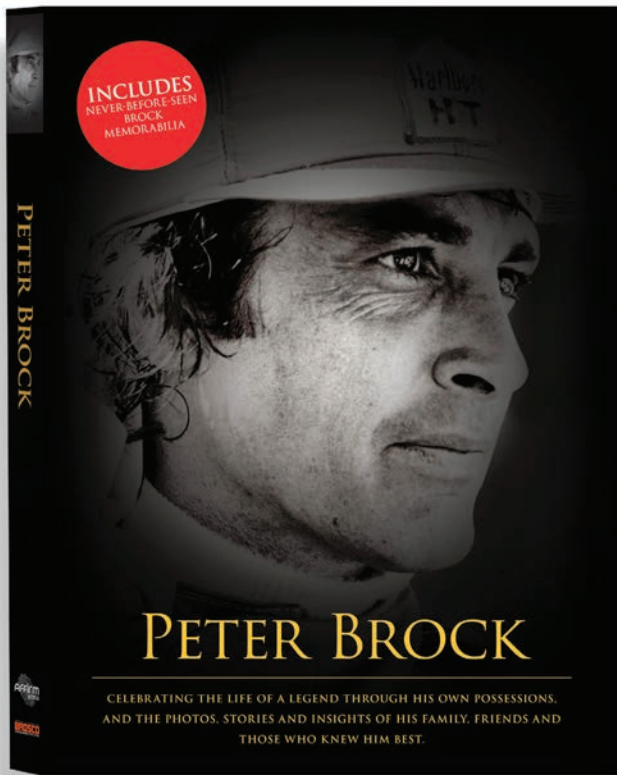
Joyful Strains collects twenty-seven memoirs from writers describing their expatriation to Australia. These are stories about what they found, who they became and what they now think of Australia – stories that provide entertainment, perspective and cause to celebrate our increasingly diverse nation. This is an insightful, compelling and sometimes confronting collection for all Australians.

Contributors include: Alice Pung, Danny Katz, Mark Dapin and Diane Armstrong, with an introduction from Arnold Zable.



Kent MacCarter is a Melbourne-based writer and editor, and the author of two poetry collections. He is Managing Editor of Cordite Poetry Review. An expatriate of various places in Minnesota, Montana and New Mexico, he came to Australia in 2004.

Ali Lemer is a Melbourne-based writer and editor. She has worked for travel-guide publisher Lonely Planet and is the author of three travel guidebooks. Ali has also had her work published in Meanjin and Eureka Street. She came to Australia in 2005 from New York City.



Peter Brock

by Beverley Brock

‘Bev has done her best to communicate his sporting greatness, and also his humanity, and succeeds in painting a full picture of the man.’ *Herald Sun*

‘An extraordinary piece of publishing.’ **Jon Faine**, *Radio National The Conversation Hour*

This book celebrates the life of Peter Brock through his family and friends, personal collections of photos, memorabilia and personalised letters.

This book provides unprecedented insight into the exceptional life of Peter Brock, on and off the road. It features personal photographs, memorabilia and reflections from the man himself, the Brock family and those who knew him best. Containing precious keepsakes from his private life and illustrious career, this is the ultimate collection for sporting enthusiasts.

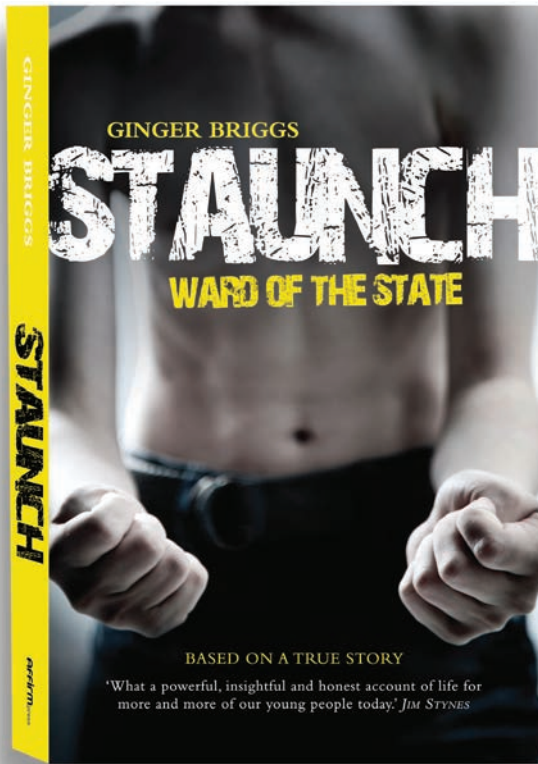
October 2012
 Category: Biography; sport
 224 pp, RRP: \$59.95 (hbk)
 ISBN: 978-0-9873085-1-1
 Rights: Worldwide

As well as providing intimate access to the public Peter Brock, this book provides a window into the personal Brock – the keen artist, bird breeder, fisherman and passionate Collingwood supporter.

Replicas of Peter’s favourite keepsakes are also re-created for posterity, including:

- His first racing log book from 1967
- 05 car lanyard from the 1987 momentous race
- Telegram from Malcolm Fraser
- His 1980's Bathurst medal
- His surprising 1993 contract





August 2012

Category: Biography

304 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9803746-3-6

Rights: Worldwide



Staunch

by Ginger Briggs

‘What a powerful, insightful and honest account of life for more and more of our young people today..?’

Jim Stynes

‘One of the most difficult things I’ve had the pleasure of reading. An extraordinary book, the writing is brilliant...it is very hard to put down.’

Waleed Aly, Radio National Drive

‘Staunch is real-life grunge, and it leaves the literary stuff for dead. There’s no glamour, no cool, just the piercing sadness of social truth.’

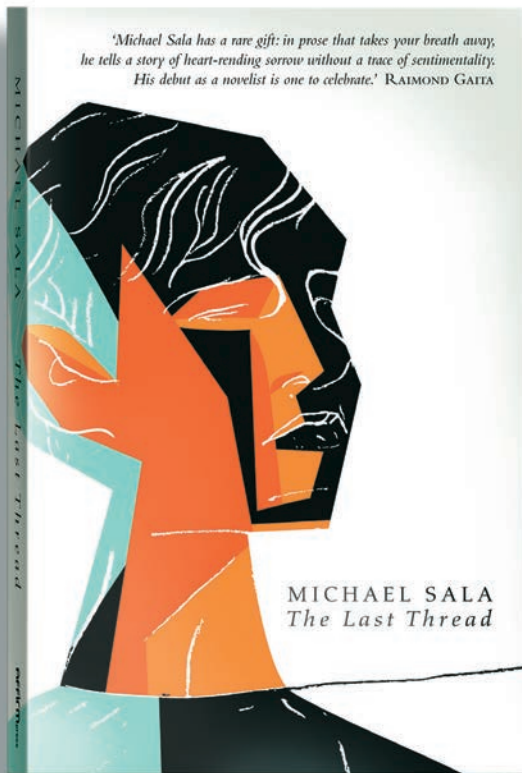
Pick of the Week, The Age

Half a million Australian children have been raised in institutional care. *Staunch* is the story of one boy’s life as a ward of the state.

Given up at birth and ‘divorced’ from his adoptive parents at ten, Andy spent his adolescence in institutions and foster homes. It’s not until he meets Mez, a kind-hearted carer, that Andy finds a parent figure he can trust and a reason to hope. But can he escape the cycle of self-destruction set off by years of neglect?

Staunch is a poignant portrayal of Andy and his friendship with Mez. It’s also testament to the many thousands who survived harrowing experiences as Forgotten Australians.

Ginger Briggs has been published in various national newspapers and magazines. She hosts writing workshops for judicial officers, lawyers and professionals.



February 2012
Category: Fiction; autobiographical
240 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)
ISBN: 978-0-9871326-8-0
Rights: ANZ

The Last Thread

by Michael Sala

‘Michael Sala has a rare gift: in prose that takes your breath away, he tells a story of heart-rending sorrow without a trace of sentimentality. His debut as a novelist is one to celebrate.’ **Raimond Gaita**

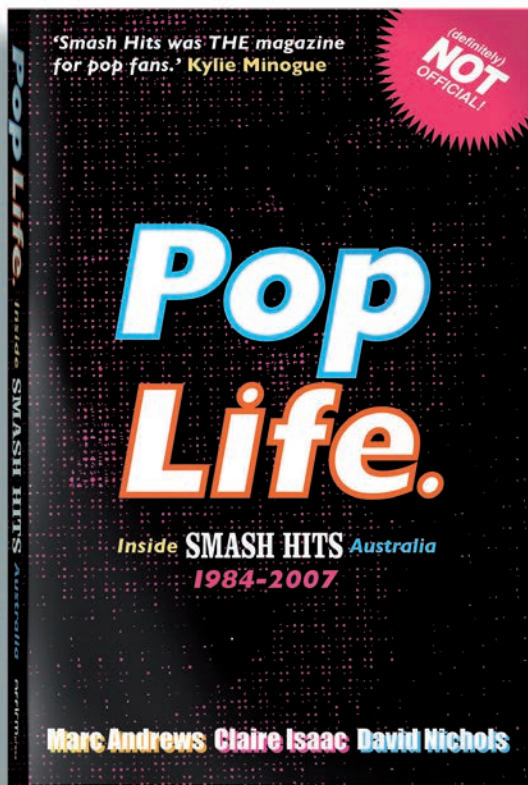
‘A confronting and compelling story of a family ... Michael Sala captures perfectly the puzzled silence of the uncomprehending child in a narrative swollen with unspoken secrets.’ **Debra Adelaide**

The Last Thread is Michael Sala’s fascinating life in fiction. From his early years in the Netherlands to growing up in Australia during the 1980s, Michael recalls the secret surrounding his estranged Greek father and how scandalous events from the past fractured his family. This is a moving chronicle of a boy’s turbulent relationship with his bullying stepfather, aloof older brother and adored mother, whose cheerful apathy has devastating consequences. As his life unfolds, Michael – now a father – must decide if he can free himself from the dark pull of the past.

Reminiscent of the great autobiographical novels of JM Coetzee and Michael Ondaatje, *The Last Thread* is a beautifully crafted work from an exceptional new writer.



Michael Sala has had his short fiction published in *The Best Australian Stories* three times. *The Last Thread* is his first book and was shortlisted for the *Australian/Vogel Literary Award*.



December 2011

Category: Music; memoir; popular culture

192 pp, RRP: \$27.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9871326-7-3

Rights: Worldwide

Pop Life

Inside Smash Hits Australia

1984 - 2007

by Marc Andrews, Claire Isaac &
David Nichols

‘Smash Hit was THE magazine for pop fans.’

Kylie Minogue on *Pop Life*

For Australian teenagers of the 1980s and 90s, *Smash Hits* magazine provided a fortnightly fix of fun, glamour and pop. It had more fizz than a sherbet bomb, and hundreds of thousands of Australian teenagers were hooked.

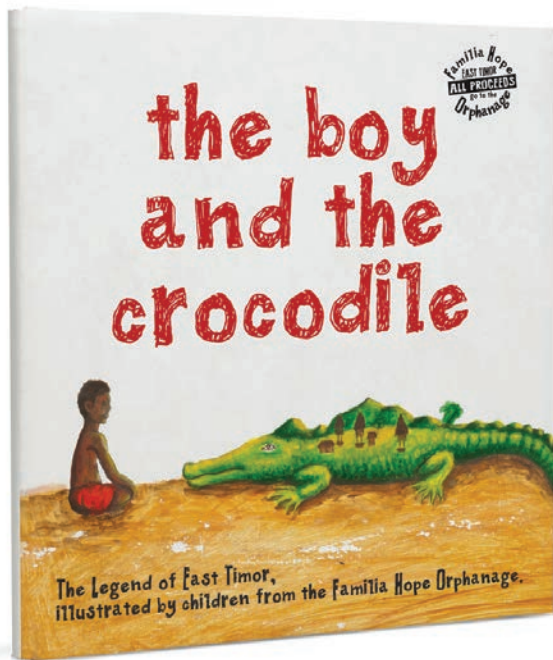
Pop Life is an insiders’ view of the Australian pop lovers’ bible, from its bubbly beginnings to digital demise.

Three former *Smash Hits* writers and editors take an affectionate and irreverent jaunt down memory lane.

And reveal how they, Australia and readers have changed along the way.

Claire Isaac, David Nichols, and Marc Andrews

worked as writers and editors of *Smash Hits* Australia in the 80s and 90s. They came to the magazine from vastly different angles. **Claire** was the unabashed fan who went on to find a home for her exclamation marks as editor of *OK!* magazine and is currently deputy editor of *Woman’s Day*; **David**, the indie kid, enjoyed the experience almost in spite of himself and went on to become an academic and author of *The Go Betweens* and *The Bogan Delusion*; while **Marc** was the young gay Queenslander who found identity in the pages of *Smash Hits* and went on to become a writer and contributing editor for *DNA* magazine and assistant editor at *Mediaweek*.



November 2011

Category: Children's picture book

48 pp, RRP: \$19.95 (flexibound)

ISBN: 978-0-9871326-2-8

Rights: Worldwide

The Boy and the Crocodile

Illustrated by the children from
the Familia Hope Orphanage

'A wonderful book that celebrates the storytelling traditions of this extraordinary country. It should be read far and wide.' **Robert Connolly, film-maker**

'A beautiful book about kindness being rewarded.'
**Alison Lester, award-winning author and
illustrator of many children's books, including
*Are We There Yet?***

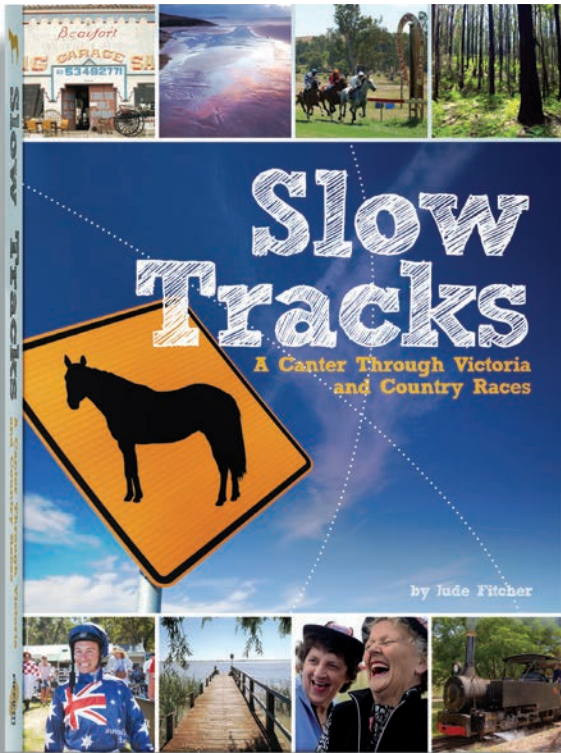
The Boy and the Crocodile is the legend of East Timor, about how the island of Timor got its curious shape. It's also a parable about kindness, and now a children's book that is benefiting vulnerable kids.

The book was illustrated by children from the Familia Hope Orphanage in East Timor, including many who lost their parents in the country's violent struggle for independence. ALL proceeds from sales go to the orphanage.

We pre-sold the book in Australia to fund the production of a version in Tetum (the lingua franca of East Timor), and 4000 books will be distributed to kids throughout the country during 2012.

By buying the book, you can help raise funds for the orphanage and contribute to a brighter future for many more East Timorese kids.

Familia Hope Orphanage was established in 2004 and is located in Gleno, the main town in the district of Ermera in Timor Leste. It takes care of 30 kids full-time, and provides a drop-in facility for many others. Many of the children at this orphanage lost their parents in the violent struggle for East Timor's independence.



October 2011
Category: Travel, country Victoria
272 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)
ISBN: 978-0-9871326-3-5
Rights: Worldwide



Slow Tracks

A Canter Through Victoria and Country Racing

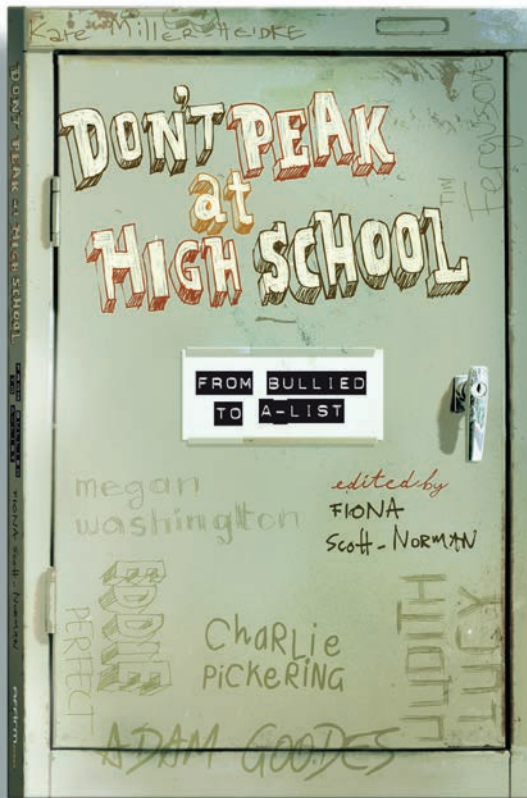
by Jude Fitcher

‘Well written in a conversational style, it’s an easy read with useful information. Complete with endearing photographs and cute freehand maps.’
Australian Traveller

Slow Tracks is a guide to regional Victoria that just happens to end up at some of the finest racetracks in the state (where the only jumps are leaps of joy). Led by locals, it explores the charm and character of country Victoria and revels in the people and places that make it unique. From tractor pulls to unforgettable swimming holes, it takes you places where the going is good and the only dead-cert is that you’ll have a good time.

This is also a guide to supporting communities that have had a tough trot with bushfires, floods and drought in recent years. So giddy up, get out and say g’day.

Jude Fitcher grew up in Quambatook and now lives in Melbourne. Keen to inspire city folk to explore regional Victoria, she spent three years researching and writing this book, using the network of country race meets as her guide.



July 2011
Category: Biography, bullying
208 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)
ISBN: 978-0-9807904-5-0
Rights: Worldwide



Don't Peak at High School

From Bullied to A-List

(ed.) Fiona Scott-Norman

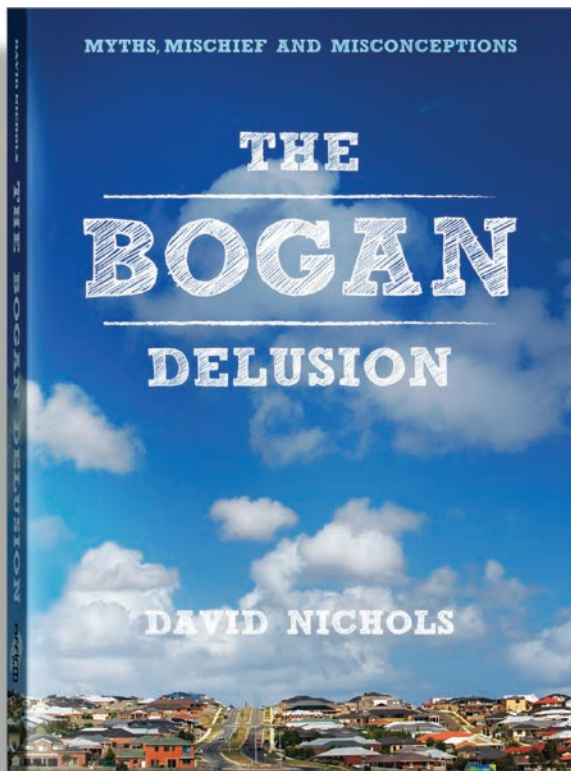
‘Full of wry humour, pearls of hard-won wisdom and harrowing stories ... Some are funny, others are confronting. Ultimately, all fifteen are uplifting – testimonies to individual defiance, discipline, ingenuity and resilience.’ *The Big Issue*

‘The irony is that the majority of people who are admired and respected in the world probably came from this kind of background...I never went to anything cool, the first time I went to a Big Day Out, I was 23 and playing at it!’ **Megan Washington**

For the one in four Australian kids affected by bullying, the so-called ‘best days of your life’ can feel more like Guantanamo Bay for Teens. In *Don't Peak At High School*, Australia's most talented, successful and *popular* stars reveal how they overcame bullying to reach great heights.

A host of celebrities including Megan Washington, Charlie Pickering, Marieke Hardy, Adam Goodes, Penny Wong, Bindi Cole, Eddie Perfect, Brendan Cowell, Judith Lucy and Tom Ballard shine light into the dark basements of their past to inspire and reassure teenagers while providing precious insight for parents and teachers.

Fiona Scott-Norman is a Melbourne-based comedian, writer and broadcaster. She writes regularly for *The Big Issue* magazine, and is a regular on ABC Radio.



July 2011

Category: Society, culture
224 pp, RRP: \$22.95 (pbk)
ISBN: 978-0-9807904-4-3
Rights: Worldwide



The Bogan Delusion

by David Nichols

‘Challenging and engaging...pushes readers out of their comfort zone.’ **Sophie Cunningham**

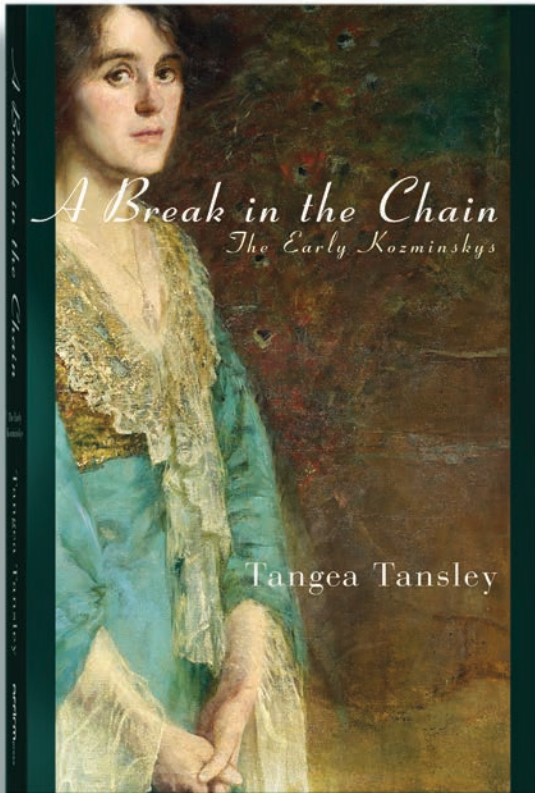
‘In explaining the way the bourgeoisie bohemians are keepers of the cultural orthodoxy he explains us to ourselves.’ *The Australian*

‘With sociological precision, Nichols exposes how the term “bogan” is not an accurate description of a real group of people, but rather a reflection of the cut-off liberal classes’ own sweaty nightmares.’
The Spectator (UK)

Nothing defies cultured Australia’s sense of itself more than the bogan – that boorish, racist, drunken, sexist, bethonged, Barnesy-loving embarrassment out there in the back blocks.

Part travelogue, part social critique, *The Bogan Delusion* explores the cultural and social landscape of Australia in 2011. It reveals, with searing analysis and sharp wit, that the bogan so widely feared is nothing more than a bogey: a convenient excuse for many to never venture beyond the cafe-lined cocoon of the inner city. What is believing in the bogan doing to

David Nichols has been published in the *Age*, *Rolling Stone*, *Meanjin*, *Puncture* and *The Big Issue*. He is the author of *The Go-Betweens*, and co-editor of *Community: Building Modern Australia*. He lectures in urban planning at the University of Melbourne.



July 2011

Category: Fiction; historical

320 pp, RRP: \$27.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9807904-6-7

Rights: Worldwide

A Break in the Chain

by Tangea Tansley

‘Splendidly illuminating, *A Break in the Chain* is an emotionally dense and intriguing Australian story of high achievement.’ **Michael Meehan**

‘A beautifully written imagining of three generations of her family.’ *Herald Sun*

‘This is a warm, lively, empathetic novel full of fascinating social history.’ *Sydney Morning Herald*

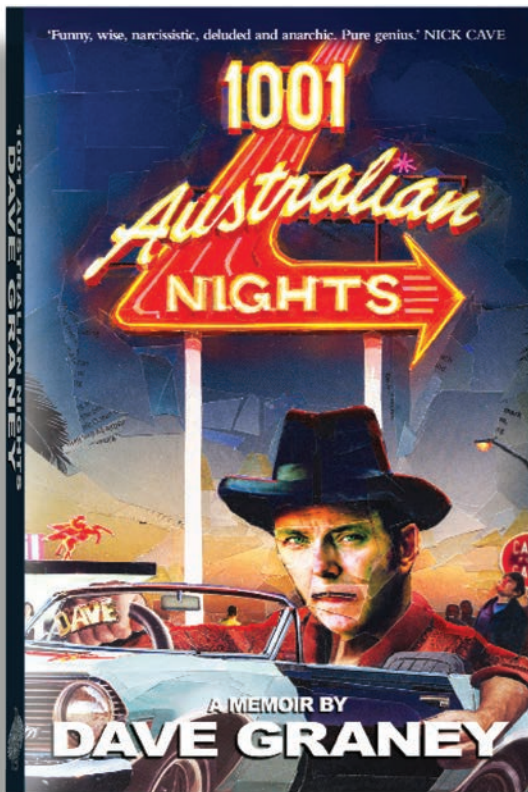
‘A gripping book.’ **Alan Gold, J-Wire**

In 1856, Simon Kozminsky travelled from Prussia to begin a new life in the fledgling colony of Victoria. In the heady days of the gold rush, he established a jewellery house that would gain world renown. But behind the glittering facade of wealth, glamour and influence lay a darker, sadder story: a mysterious rift between Simon and his eldest son. In an extraordinary coincidence, the answer to this life-long estrangement was painted by Australia’s pre-eminent artist of the time, Frederick McCubbin. The cover depicts a shy Eileen Watkins, the Irish woman who would unwittingly drive a wedge between father and son.

A Break in the Chain is a brilliant imagining of three generations of real-life Kozminskys. With authenticity and dramatic verve, Tangea Tansley brings alive Melbourne of the past in a tantalising tale of fortune and faith, love and betrayal.



Tangea Tansley has worked as a journalist, lecturer and editor and has been published in numerous Australian and international magazines, newspapers and journals including the *Griffith REVIEW*. *A Break in the Chain: The Early Kozminskys* is her first work of fiction.



April 2011

Category: Memoir, rock music

256 pp, RRP: \$29.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9807904-3-6

Rights: Worldwide



1001 Australian Nights

by Dave Graney

‘Funny, wise, narcissistic, deluded and anarchic. Pure genius.’ **Nick Cave**

‘All over the place and half-crazed but that’s why it’s great.’ *The Age*

‘Reads like Jack Kerouac or Hunter S Thompson minus the drugs.’ *West Australian*

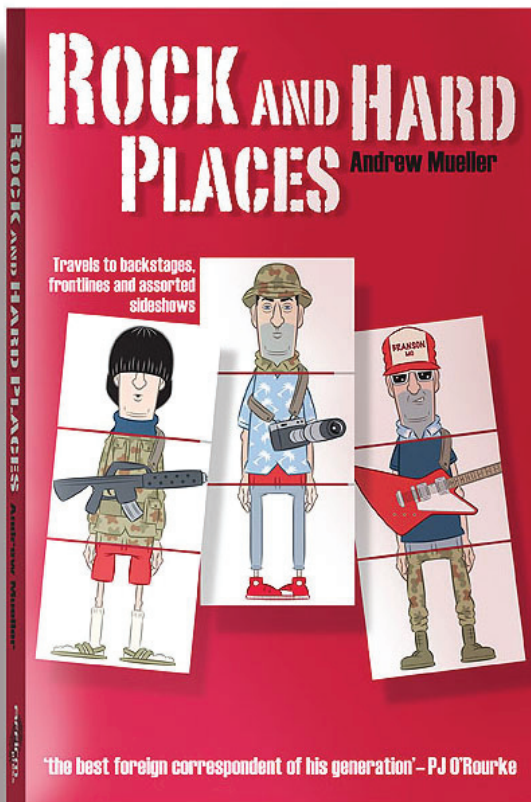
‘A rare and valuable aberration.’ *Mess+Noise*

‘A keen, biting sardonic observer of the times.’ *Canberra Times*

In his memoir, *1001 Australian Nights*, legendary rock showman Dave Graney takes us on a journey about growing up, finding your voice and hitting the right pitch. In August 1977, Dave sets off on a road-trip from small-town Australia, a young man fired up by punk rock, outside of life and looking for a way in. When he loses the map Graney finds his groove, then twists and turns his way through three decades as a working artist.

This is no standard rock ‘n’ roll trip; it’s Graney up close, out there and on his game.

Dave Graney is an ARIA-award winning, gold record-wearing, bad-ass musician with a recording output comprising roughly twenty-four albums (with The Moodists, The Coral Snakes, The White Buffaloes and Lurid Yellow Mist) in a career spanning thirty years. *1001 Australian Nights* is his first book.



October 2010

Category: Music writing, travel

320 pp, RRP: \$29.95 (pbk)

978-0-9807904-1-2

Rights: ANZ



Rock and Hard Places

by Andrew Mueller

‘I can think of no more entertaining companion on a perilous journey than the ever hopeful, wildly optimistic yet clear-thinking Andrew Mueller.’

Guardian

‘He has cleverly combined a trifecta of roles...

Good-humoured cynicism peppers the pages, and the refreshing Mueller isn’t afraid to be the punch-line of his own jokes.’ *Courier Mail*

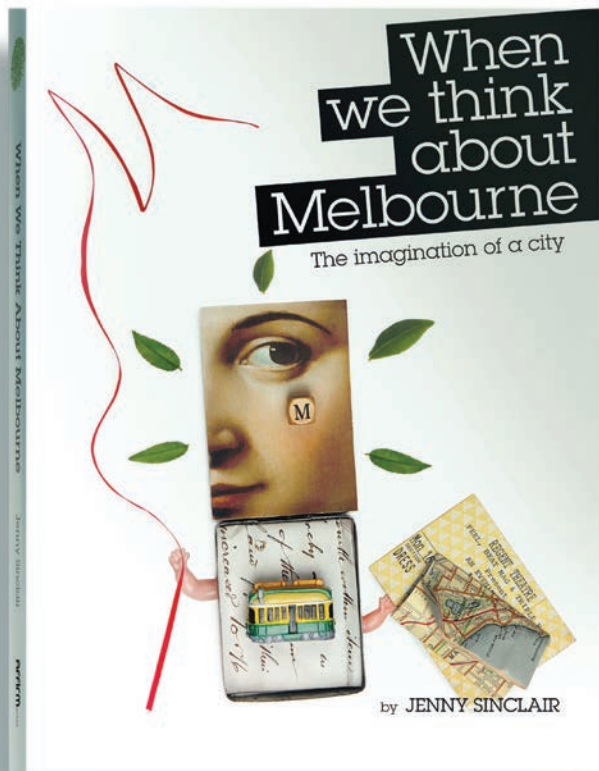
‘The best foreign correspondent of his generation.’

P.J. O’Rourke

Andrew Mueller couldn’t decide between being a rock journalist, travel writer or foreign correspondent, so he tries to be all three at once.

Rock and Hard Places is a retrospective of his encounters over the past 20 years. Among his adventures, Andrew cracks America with Radiohead, wanders all over the shop with U2, and tunes into the music scene in bombed-out Sarajevo. He accidentally goes to war in Bosnia, watches Def Leppard play in a Moroccan cave, and tries to make sense of Gallipoli on Anzac Day. He’s funny, unpredictable and occasionally makes a point.

Andrew Mueller is an Australian-born, London-based rock critic, travel writer, foreign correspondent, columnist and pundit. His previous book was *I Wouldn’t Start From Here: A Misguided Tour of the Early 21st Century*, and he was a contributing editor to Robert Young Pelton’s *The World’s Most Dangerous Places* (fifth edition).



August 2010

Category: Memoir; local interest; society

224 pp, RRP: \$34.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9806378-8-5

Rights: Worldwide



When We Think About Melbourne

The imagination of a city

by Jenny Sinclair

‘The spiritual heart of her city is the Fitzroy of Helen Garner [...] Jenny Sinclair knows her town and people.’ *The Age*

‘Jenny Sinclair has produced a kind of love song to the city she loves – warts and all. Complex, insightful and multifaceted.’ **Richard Evans**

What exactly makes Melbourne unique? And where does it get its x-factor? Journalist Jenny Sinclair goes in search of the answers and discovers that it’s actually all in our head – or, more precisely, our collective imagination.

When We Think About Melbourne is a wry and whimsical survey of our city’s creativity. It observes with a keen and appreciative eye the evolution of Melbourne through its music, art, literature, film, maps and transport.

When We Think About Melbourne features a wealth of visual material, including original photography and many defining features that have shaped Melbourne’s opinion of itself.

Jenny Sinclair is a Melbourne writer of stories both real and imagined. She has been on the staff of *The Age* and *The Melbourne Times*. She now studies and teaches at the University of Melbourne.



April 2010

Category: Photography; East Timor; street art

192 pp, RRP: \$29.95 (flexibound)

ISBN: 978-0-9806378-2-3

Rights: Worldwide



Peace of Wall

Street art from East Timor

by Chris Parkinson

‘Everyone should read it.’ *West Australian*

‘Deeply moving and beautifully presented, the raw expression here tells the harrowing and inspirational story of East Timor.’

Anthony LaPaglia

‘An evocative piece of photojournalism – capturing an important moment in East Timor’s history through its walls.’ **Tristan Manco, author and graffiti documentarian**

The images and words adorning the walls of East Timor reflect the country’s tumultuous history, precarious present and hopeful future. They endow the social landscape with a rawness and honesty absent from their media, and echo the struggle towards new nationhood. *Peace of Wall* is widely contradictory, emotionally charged, instantly engaging and consistently dramatic. It’s life in East Timor.

Chris Parkinson spent four years living and working in East Timor. Throughout this time, he documented the changing political and social climate in East Timor through its street art. He amassed over 3000 photographs and hundreds of hours of interviews.

Peace of Wall showcases a selection of these inspirational stories and artwork.

Chris Parkinson spent four years working in film, with refugees and on gender in East Timor. Throughout these four years he documented the shifting walls of the country and interviewed the numerous individuals participating in East Timor’s most freely accessed media – graffiti. His photographic collection is the only documented collection of graffiti from East Timor.

Long Story Shorts

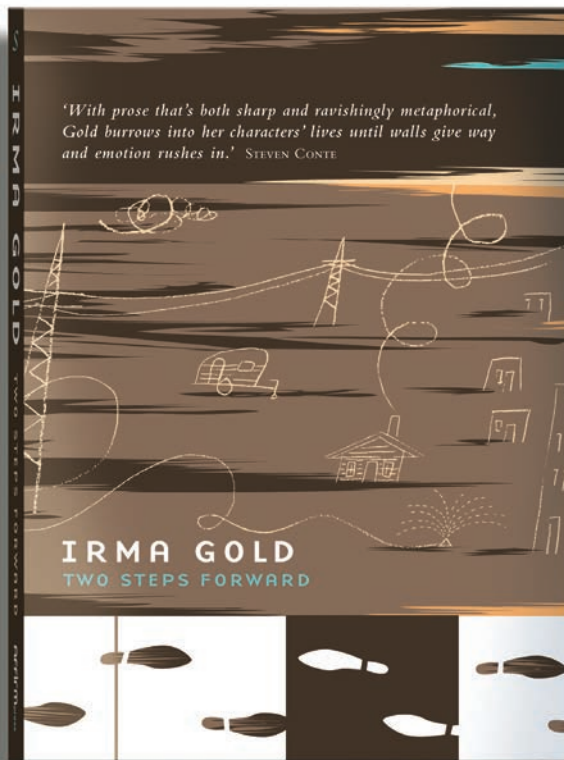


Long Story Shorts is an initiative by Affirm Press to publish six individual collections of stories from new and emerging Australian writers.

These six books have been created as a series, designed and illustrated by award-winning illustrator Dean Gorissen.

‘Affirm Press is well-named; in their Long Story Shorts project they give affirmation to Australian writers everywhere: the short story is alive, part of our collective national voice, and a form to be treasured. If there’s a renaissance on the cards, it’s vision like this which is going to kick-start it.’
Cate Kennedy

‘I don’t know where Affirm Press is finding its new fiction writers but this is the second time in months that I’ve been amazed by the quality of a debut short-story collection from it by a previously unknown writer.’
Sydney Morning Herald, on the Long Story Shorts Series



September 2011
Category: Fiction; short stories
192 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)
ISBN: 978-0-9807904-7-4
Rights: Worldwide



Two Steps Forward

by Irma Gold

‘A beautifully crafted volume.’ *The Age*

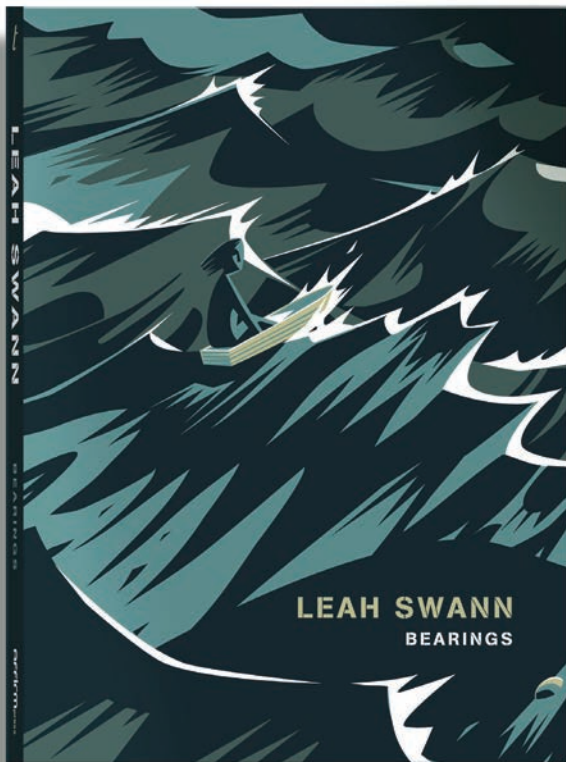
‘These stories catch the poignant sensuousness of difficult lives, their daily tragedies and unexpected joys.’ **Marion Halligan**

‘With prose that’s both sharp and ravishingly metaphorical, Gold burrows into her characters’ lives until walls give way and emotion rushes in.’
Steven Conte, winner of the Prime Minister’s Literary Award

It’s easy to get stuck in a rut. What binds the characters in *Two Steps Forward* is an indomitable desire to climb their way out.

Located in familiar Australian settings, this collection of stories brilliantly weaves together authentic characters and adverse scenarios. You’ll encounter battlers, underdogs and people who are doing it tough. Folks to applaud and causes to cheer. In this moving, assured debut, Irma Gold celebrates courage and challenges our notions of what it takes to be happy.

Irma Gold is a writer and editor based in Canberra. She is the author of two children’s books, and she has been widely published in Australian literary journals. *Two Steps Forward* is her debut collection of stories.



April 2011

Category: Fiction; short stories

208 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9807904-2-9

Rights: Worldwide



Bearings

by Leah Swann

Shortlisted for the Dobbie Award 2012

‘Leah Swann is a fine stylist. The novella is masterly.’

Amanda Lohrey

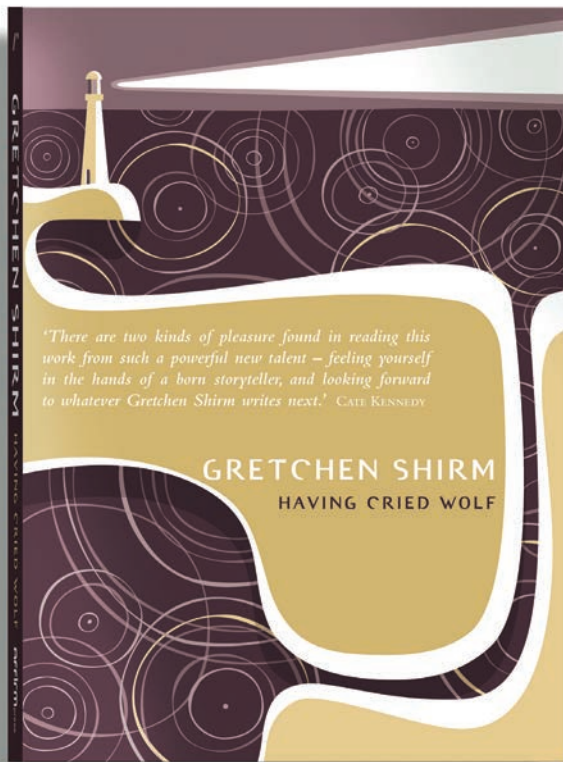
‘I don’t know where Affirm Press is finding its new fiction writers but this is the second time in months that I’ve been amazed by the quality of a debut short-story collection from it by a previously unknown writer.’ **Pick of the Week, Sydney Morning Herald**

‘The novella ... is especially memorable. This small book has big heart.’ *Canberra Times*

Are we slaves to destiny or architects of our own fate? *Bearings* is about challenging the course of our lives as well as keeping a foothold during unpredictable times. In this affecting novella and collection of stories, Leah Swann burrows deep into the souls of her characters to reveal universal complexities, frailties and strengths.

From searching for love to coping with grief, *Bearings* provides a map of the human condition, deftly drawn by an exciting new Australian talent with a sharp eye for instinctive behaviours and emotional truths.

Leah Swann has worked in public relations, journalism and speechwriting. Her short fiction was published in *The Best Australian Stories* in 2011. *Bearings* is her first book and was shortlisted for the Dobbie Award in 2012.



September 2010

Category: Fiction; short stories

224 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9806378-9-2

Rights: ANZ



Having Cried Wolf

by Gretchen Shirm

Sydney Morning Herald Best Young Novelist of the Year

Shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Award for New Writing

'This collection is beautifully formed.' *The Age*

'A major new talent has arrived.' **Kerryn Goldsworthy**, *Sydney Morning Herald*

'Wintonesque.' *Sunday Herald Sun*

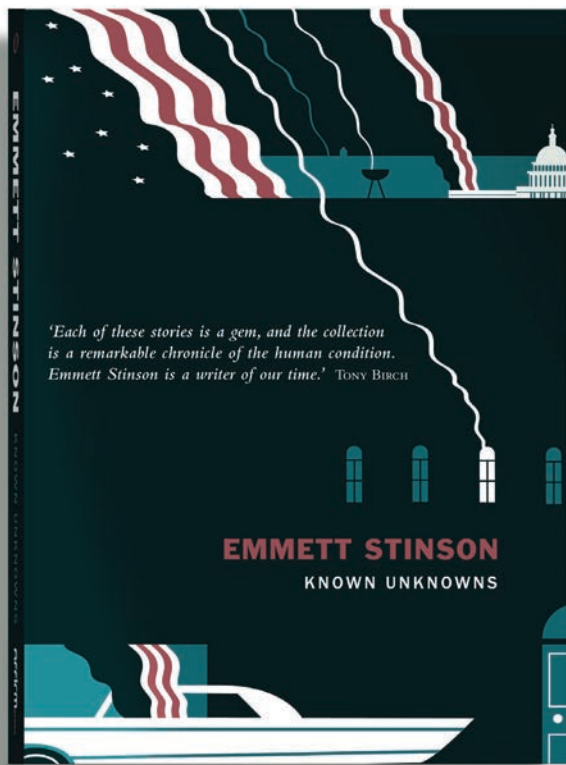
'Deep emotional truths.' *Canberra Times*

'You're in the hands of a born storyteller...'
Cate Kennedy

Small towns harbour secrets. Rising and returning like the tides lapping the fictional coastal town of Kinsale, these stories revolve around Alice and Grace. Friends since childhood, they have grown into young women with vastly divergent lives.

Having Cried Wolf draws their partners, families, friends, neighbours and strangers into a rich tapestry of shared experience: of love, tragedy, success and failure. This is a contemplative and affecting work, a novel in stories, from a remarkable new Australian writer.

Gretchen Shirm is a writer and lawyer. She has been published in *The Best Australian Stories*, *Etchings*, *Wet Ink*, and *Southerly*. She was named one of the *Sydney Morning Herald's* Best Young Australian Novelists for her collection, *Having Cried Wolf*.



June 2010

Category: Fiction; short stories

224 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9806378-7-8

Rights: Worldwide



Known Unknowns

by Emmett Stinson

Shortlisted for the Steele Rudd Award 2011
Queensland Premier's Literary Awards

'Beautiful passages of writing.' *The Australian*

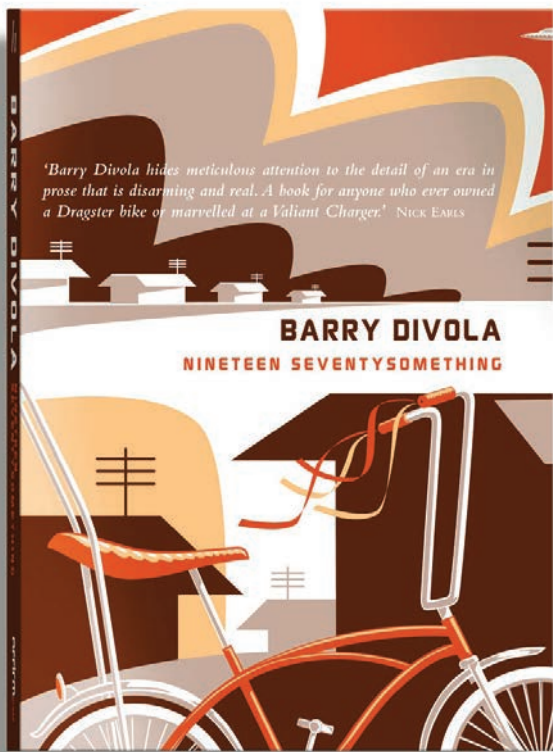
'Stinson's stories are superb.' *Overland*

'Each of these stories is a gem, and the collection is a remarkable chronicle of the human condition. Emmett Stinson is a writer of our time.' **Tony Birch**

Emmett Stinson is an American who moved to Australia in 2004 – and it was only with distance from his homeland that he could write *Known Unknowns*, his debut collection. Set largely in Washington DC immediately after September 11, these engrossing stories tap into the zeitgeist of disconnection, isolation and the loss of meaningful identity after those world-changing events.

With sharp, insightful prose that illuminates the frailty of human relationships, *Known Unknowns* is an arresting collection that marks the arrival of an exciting new literary talent.

Emmett Stinson has received the *Age* Short Story Award, the Arts SA Creative Writing Award, and the Wagner Medal for Fiction. His essays, fiction and poetry have appeared in various literary journals and he is a co-founder and fiction editor of *Wet Ink*. He lectures at the University of Melbourne and is president of SPUNC.



March 2010

Category: Fiction; short stories

192 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9806378-5-4

Rights: Worldwide



Nineteen Seventysomething

by Barry Divola

‘Evocative, and very keenly observed.’ *The Sunday Age*

‘...Divola dresses memories and musings in a sunburnt innocence that captures the heart of the era perfectly.’

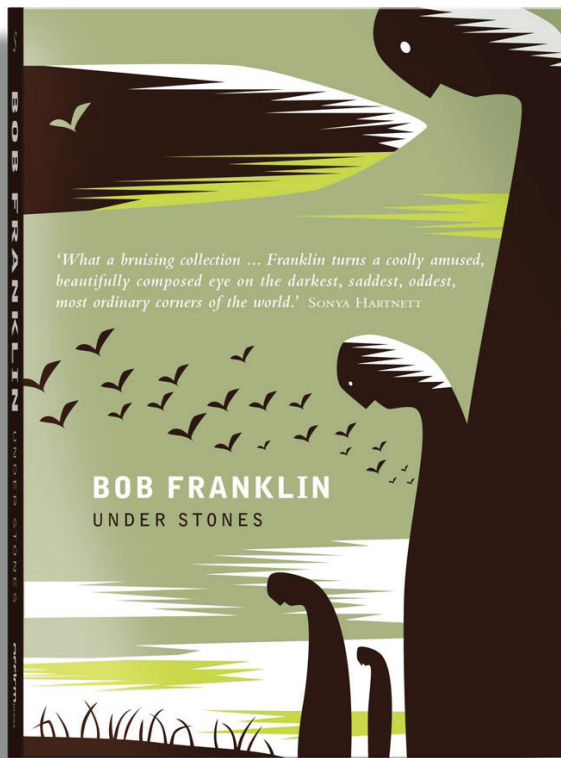
Rolling Stone

‘I’ve come to expect the laughs and the recognition in Barry’s writing – I’ve been a six-foot fan for a while – but I didn’t foresee the heart ... Why am I tearful and smiling? Wincing and thankful?’

Tim Rogers

Barry Divola’s *Nineteen Seventysomething* is a requiem for bygone days. In the fictional suburb of Braithwaite, we meet Charlie during the listless weeks of his summer holidays. Against a backdrop of buzzing cicadas, Dragstar bikes, schoolboy rock bands, church youth groups, and Top 40 radio, Barry Divola deftly evokes that awkward, exhilarating journey from childhood to adolescence. Told with humour, poignancy and authenticity, *Nineteen Seventysomething* marks the familiar stages of teenage awakening – in friendship, desire and love.

Barry Divola writes for magazines and newspapers, including *Rolling Stone*, *the(sydney)magazine*, *Who* and the *Sydney Morning Herald*. He is the author of three non-fiction books: *Fanclub*, *Searching For Kingly Critter* and *The Secret Life of Backpackers*. Barry has won the Banjo Paterson Award for short fiction three times.



February 2010

Category: Fiction; short stories

224 pp, RRP: \$24.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9806378-4-7

Rights: Worldwide



Under Stones

by Bob Franklin

Shortlisted for Best Collection in the Aurealis Awards 2010

Winner of the 2010 Australian Shadows Award for Long Fiction

‘A consistently engaging and surprising book.’
Australian Literary Review

‘They are horrors of a different kind, edgy and unsettling, holding up a mirror to the underside of Australian society.’ *Sunday Herald Sun*

‘What a bruising collection...Franklin turns a coolly amused, beautifully composed eye on the darkest, saddest, oddest, most ordinary corners of the world.’
Sonya Hartnett

Dip into the world of Bob Franklin’s fiction at your own risk. The calm surface belies a swift undertow and snags galore. These are not horror stories in the traditional sense; they are more unsettling than that.

Under Stones are uneasy tales, set in familiar surrounds. They are journeys into the human psyche and powerful critiques of contemporary Australian society. Bob Franklin pokes and prods at human fears and foibles, revealing with forensic glee truths that you might prefer were, well, left under stones.

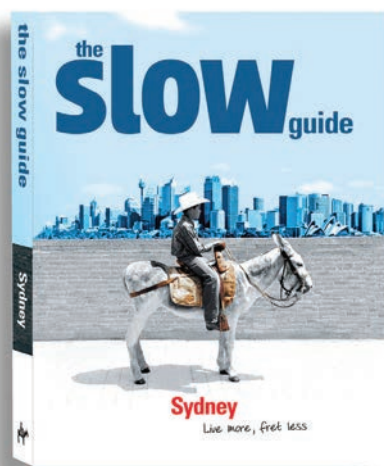
Bob Franklin works as a stand-up comic, writer, actor and director. He has had roles in *The Librarians*, *Thank God You’re Here*, *Boytown* and *Bad Eggs*. *Under Stones* is his first novel. *Under Stones* is his first book.

Slow Guide Series

Salve for the soul, the *Slow Guides* are inspirational lifestyle guides for those who want to live more and fret less. They celebrate all that's unique, local, natural, traditional and sensory in each great city.

So rise up – in your own time, of course – against the culture of speed and uniformity. Tune into the seasons, buy greens from a farmer, holiday at home, meet local artisans, explore a cove, knit on the Tube, forage for fungi, muck in with the community, cycle the backstreets, and do, for goodness sake, slow down and smell the roses.

See page 12 for The Slow Guide to Melbourne



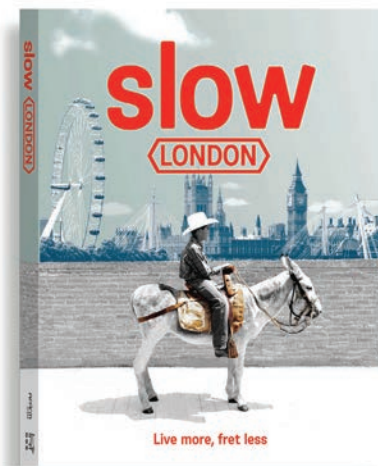
Authors: Helen Hawkes & Leta Keens

October 2007

Category: Travel; guidebooks

224 pp, RRP: \$29.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9803746-1-2



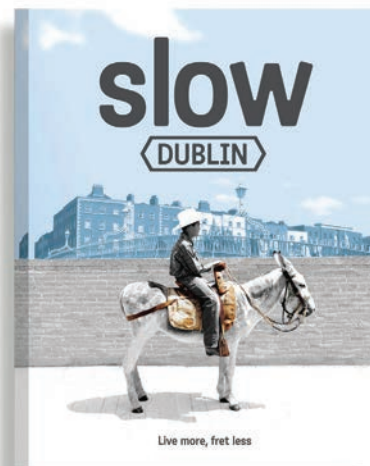
Authors: Robin Barton & Hayley Cull
Photographer: Mark Chilvers

April 2010

Category: Travel; guidebooks

224 pp, RRP: \$29.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9803746-9-8



Author: Anto Howard
Photographers: Mark Chilvers & Rene Bruun

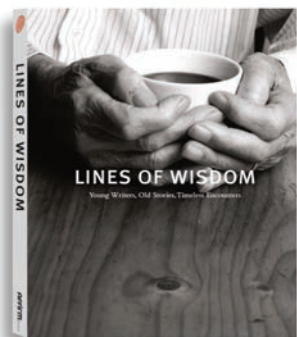
April 2010

Category: Travel; guidebooks

224 pp, RRP: \$29.95 (pbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9803746-8-1

Essential Backlist



Lines of Wisdom

Anthology

In a conversation spanning generations, young writers from around the country sketch the extraordinary lives of ordinary and elderly Australians they find inspirational. *Lines of Wisdom* is a heart-to-heart between people at opposite ends of the path of life. Evocative and engaging, sincere and irreverent, it provides a gentle mediation on the march of time and on the history of Australia itself. It contains wise words but, most poignantly, it's an enduring reminder to us all to listen while we can.

November 2008

Category: Non-fiction; biography

RRP \$39.95 (flexibound)

ISBN 978-0-9803746-5-0



Paradise Updated

Mic Looby

There are precious few places still untouched by tourism. Paradise Lost? Chance would be a fine thing. More like Paradise Packaged, Marketed and Sold in Easy-to-Enjoy Portions.

Robert Rind is a legend in travel writing circles, fiercely independent and resolutely old school. Too old school. The Company decides he's a liability and sends young, pliable Mithra to tropical Maganda to take his place. But the guidebook writer's life isn't all bustling street markets and five-star resorts: as any seasoned traveller knows, things rarely go as planned and Robert Rind is unlikely to come quietly.

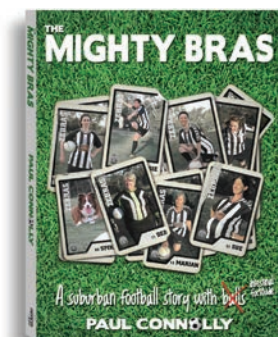
Mic Looby's novel weaves a hilarious and hair-raising tale of compromised idealism and corporate skullduggery. You'll never open another guidebook without reading between the lines.

September 2009

Category: Fiction; travel

RRP \$29.95 (pbk)

ISBN 978-0-9803746-6-7



The Mighty Bras

Paul Connolly

In the summer of 2003, a mob of mature Melbourne women threw caution, asthma inhalers and orthopaedic inserts to the wind and formed a football (soccer) team to play in the lower division of the metropolitan league. *The Mighty Bras* – as the Brunswick Zebras became known – have defied the odds and their old bones ever since to prove that, well, winning isn't everything.

Coach and author Paul Connolly has steered the Bras through their occasional triumphs and frequent troubles. His deft and delightful memoir is a suburban sports story about friendship, community and shared ideals. And testament that football is indeed 'a funny old game'.

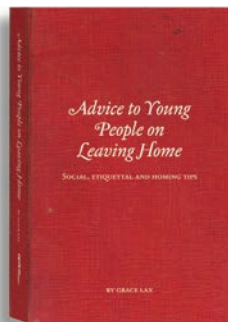
April 2010

Category: Biography; sport

RRP \$29.95 (pbk)

ISBN 978-0-9806378-6-1

Essential Backlist



Advice to Young People on Leaving Home

Grace Lax

If you or your spawn are looking for guidance about the right way to leave the family home, find 'digs', make friends, influence people, express yourself artistically, eat, drink, procreate, get ahead and, finally, die and be buried... then this darling compendium will steer you through the rest of your days. It is the latest offering from world-famous knowist, Grace Lax, OBE.

Mrs Lax, 107 if she is a day, has never let being entirely fictional get in her way. 'You don't need to have a pulse,' she laughs, jangling her pearls, 'to have your finger on it.'

February 2010

Category: Non-fiction

RRP \$19.95 (hbk)

ISBN: 978-0-9806378-3-0



50 Reasons to Quit/Keep Smoking

Fiona Scott-Norman

One book with two covers, *50 Reasons to Quit/Keep Smoking* is an audacious attempt to tackle the touchy subject of smoking with humour and logic.

Conventional self-help books and social ostracising haven't worked yet on the nearly four million adults still smoking in Australia. So engaging them in a way that entertains and doesn't smack of sanctimony just might – as it did with the publisher, a veteran smoker of more than twenty years.

It takes the obsession and mystique out of smoking, a pastime that throughout the ages has besotted and repulsed

August 2009

Category: Non-fiction; humour

RRP \$14.95 (flexibound)

ISBN 978-0-9803746-7-4



From Sometimes Love Beth

Beth Sometimes

From her new home in Central Australia, on the eve of 2008, postcard author Beth Sometimes embarked on a daring challenge: to write a postcard to somebody, everybody, anybody and anything every day for the next year.

Collected in this compendium are postcards to friends, exes, people she'd met in passing, strangers, rivers, mountains and just about anything she wanted to reach out and touch. A combination of handmade and shop-bought, each contains a piece of writing of some significance.

From Sometimes Love Beth weaves a world of rectangular emotions and cardboardly camaraderie, where giant ideas roam miniature communiqués and the personal becomes public – just like on a postcard itself.

October 2009

Category: Non-fiction; correspondence

RRP \$29.95 (flexibound)

ISBN 978-0-9806378-0-9

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