

Recent Books from Australia – Feb 2024

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Biography/Memoirs

Quaint Deeds/Mackinnon, A.J.
Australia : Black Inc. Books, Australia 2024
336 pages, 23cm
9781760643690
USD : 39.99 / PB
415 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867077>

From the bestselling author of *The Unlikely Voyage of Jack de Crow*, a hilarious and heart-warming memoir of teaching, treasure hunts and finding your own way in life. A.J. 'Sandy' Mackinnon is best known to readers as a much-loved travel writer. But between eccentric voyages, he has for almost forty years taught at schools in Australia and the UK. In *Quaint Deeds* he brings his trademark wit and warmth to the classroom, recalling the ups, downs and unexpected detours of a teaching life. Along the way, he shares the lessons his students have taught him, often in the most unlikely moments – whether playing pranks, experimenting with home-made fireworks, or searching for buried treasure in the English countryside. Uproarious and insightful in equal measure, *Quaint Deeds* is an irresistible ode to the magic and mystery of youth.

Letters to a Critic/James, Rodney
Australia : Miegunyah Press 2024
336 pages, 25cm
9780522879872

USD : 70.00 / HB
760 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867066>

The eleven years that passed between the 1943 and the 1954 elections were arguably some of the most pivotal in Australian history. This was a period of intense political, policy and strategic transition, which saw a popular Labor Government and its state-led vision for post-war reconstruction toppled by Robert Menzies and his newly formed political machine, the Liberal Party of Australia. Meanwhile, a backdrop of rising Cold War tensions came to dominate domestic and international policymaking, ushering in a divisive communist party ban, the ANZUS treaty, the Colombo Plan, and Australia's own agency of international espionage, ASIS. But what was the difference in practical terms between Menzies and his predecessors? What role was the state to play under a centre-right government, and would Menzies be able to live up to the liberal ideals with which he had won over the Australian public? All these issues are explored in the second of a four-volume history of Menzies and his world, based on conferences convened by the Robert Menzies Institute at the University of Melbourne. Contributors include Christopher Beer, Andrew Blyth, Troy Bramston, Lorraine Finlay, Nicolle Flint, David Furse-Roberts, Anne Henderson, David Lee, Lucas McLennan, Lyndon Megarrity, Charles Richardson, William Stoltz and Tom Switzer.

I'm Liz Hayes/Hayes, Liz
Australia : HarperCollins Publishers, Australia 2024
384 pages, 24cm
9781460761106
USD : 54.99 / HB
685 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867074>

Liz Hayes has graced our television screens for more than four decades. Millions of Australians kicked off their weeks with Liz co-hosting Channel 9's Today show, and now for over 25 years have settled into their Sunday nights to watch her investigative journalism on 60 Minutes. From camping in grizzly bear territory to

sipping tea with an Afghani warlord in an active warzone, Liz has almost seen it all. She has shared the stories of celebrities and movie stars, leaders and politicians, heroes and villains across the globe, but - after a lifetime of reporting on others - when tragedy struck her own family, Liz discovered that sometimes the hardest story to tell is your own. Compelling and elegantly written, Liz's long-awaited memoir takes us behind the cameras and back to when Beth Ryan, the dairy farmer's daughter, became seasoned journalist Liz Hayes, and how life in the country gave way to 'controlled' crash-landings on US aircraft carriers. Synonymous with her iconic 60 Minutes television introduction, I'm Liz Hayes, is a warm and authentic memoir about what's possible, and what it can cost you, when you choose a life of adventure.

He of the Never-Never/Bradshaw, John

Australia : Australian Scholarly Publishing, Australia 2024

260 pages, 23cm

9781922952622

USD : 54.99 / HB

585 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867080>

Aeneas Gunn achieved posthumous fame in 1908 as the Maluka, following the publication of Jeannie (Mrs Aeneas) Gunn's acclaimed novel, We of the Never-Never. The story of Aeneas James Gunn prior to and including his year managing a remote cattle station in the Northern Territory can now be told, thanks to the discovery of a large cache of his letters. Gunn's voice enriches the narrative with deeply personal, perceptive and often humorous glimpses into life in Australia during the last decades of colonisation. A proud and capable literary man, Gunn found his vulnerabilities exposed in unusual circumstances. His Anglocentric views would, in time, be tempered by the woman he loved and admired.

Carol Raye/Senczuk, John

Australia : Australian Scholarly Publishing, Australia 2024

342 pages, 22cm

9781922952653

USD : 44.95 / PB

545 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867081>

She is a 16 year old Miss Kathleen Corkrey, who is studying hard for a stage career. If her ingenuous charm and natural vivacity does not disappear with sophistication she should go far. —Portsmouth Evening News, 1938 I think I've discovered a future star in Carol Raye, who sings and dances just about as well as any leading lady we have on the musical comedy stage. —Writer and producer, Stanley Lupino, 1939 Anyone who watched Carol on TV will always remember her as gorgeous, classy and witty. But she was equally successful working as a female executive behind the scenes, in an era when few women were allowed to do so ... her body of work will always endure. —TV and film historian, Andrew Mercado In terms of political satire in Australia, The Wharf Revue must surely be the love child of Phillip Street and Mavis Bramston. —Jonathon Biggins

Cooking

Eat Lao - Recipes from a Lao Kitchen/Sempill, Sam

Australia : Melbourne Books, Australia 2024

240 pages, 25cm

9781922779120

USD : 55.00 / HB

865 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867064>

Sam Sempill was born in Australia and raised in a traditional Lao family. The recipes in this book follow the trail of Sam's grandmother's cooking back to Lao. The food her grandmother cooked has remained a constant in Sam's life, providing her with a connection back to a country she left as a child. They celebrate the uniqueness of the Lao food tradition. Each recipe, like the scent of a signature perfume, evokes memories of a certain moment in time, and tells the story her family's journey from Lao to Australia. Through compiling these recipes, Sam have discovered the central role that food has played in her family's life, and how food was used to communicate empathy and love, in a family where hugs and kisses were substituted with soups and braises. The recipes in this book aim

to keep those memories alive and to share the unique flavours, joy and love of cooking from a Lao kitchen.

Education

Rethinking Tertiary Education/Lilly, Megan & Pascoe, Robert

Australia : Melbourne University Press, Australia 2024

272 pages, 23cm

9780522879964

USD : 49.99 / PB

385 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867075>

The current higher education system is flawed, so what needs to happen next? The future of Australia as a post-industrial economy depends on how knowledge, skills and capabilities are learned and fostered. Every Australian will need to engage with the tertiary education system, both to acquire an initial qualification and to up-skill or re-skill over the course of their lives. The time has come to address the divide between vocational and higher education and implement a reform agenda that has been in development over the last decade. This will involve reforming the Australian Qualifications Framework to give greater recognition to skills alongside knowledge, and enable the vocational and higher education sectors to design fit-for-purpose courses. It will also require reform of the pathways, partnerships, curriculum, funding and regulation and to provide the coherence, quality, navigability and relevance needed for students, providers and industry. The central figure in the development of this policy agenda was Peter Noonan, professor of Tertiary Education at Victoria University, who sadly passed away in 2022 after forty years as Australia's leading tertiary education policy thinker and adviser to both sides of government.

History

Corners of Melbourne/Annear, Robyn

Australia : Text Publishing Company, Australia 2024

336 pages, 22cm

9781922790453

USD : 42.00 / HB

420 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867071>

Melbourne's favourite historian, as seen in the acclaimed documentary, *The Lost City of Melbourne*, takes us on an unorthodox tour of the city's streets and corners, telling stories about the events and people that have made these the most interesting places to be. What better defines a city than its street corners? A corner gives you a starting point, a destination and a place to turn. It's furnished with pillar boxes, newsstands and tram stops, and lamp-posts for light and lounging. Where would you be likeliest to find a pub? At the corner, of course. And who better than Robyn Anear to usher you around the corners of Melbourne, and reveal their bizarre, baroque and mostly forgotten stories? In this (appropriately corner-shaped) book she will introduce you to- street-corner 'galvanisers' who offered the thrill of electric shock at threepence a time the rude boys of the Fitzroy back streets who became the original 'larrikins' infants named for the corners on which they'd been abandoned a rogues' gallery of unruly women, incorrigible men and runaway horses ...and, of course, the civic reprobates who discarded orange peel in the streets, to the risk of life and limb.

The China-Australia Migration Corridor/Byrne, Denis

Australia : Melbourne University Press, Australia 2024

288 pages, 23cm

9780522880229

USD : 49.99 / PB

360 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867067>

A study of the history and impact of Chinese-Australian migration. The *China-Australia Migration Corridor* traces the legacy of migration from China to Australia from the 1840s until the present day. It offers a multidimensional examination of the footprint of migration as it exists, stretching between Zhongshan county in

south China and Australia. Spanning heritage and migration studies, as well as Chinese diaspora history, this book highlights a transnational approach to the heritage of migration and the flows of people, ideas, objects and money that circulate through migration corridors. Intricate, ongoing bonds are formed between those who migrated to Australia and their homes in China.

Literature

The Conversion/Lohrey, Amanda

Australia : Text Publishing Company, Australia 2024

240 pages, 23cm

9781922790484

USD : 39.99 / PB

325 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867069>

From Miles Franklin Award-winning author Amanda Lohrey comes a stunning literary foray into place, grief, and what makes a home. The conversion was Nick's idea. Nick- so persuasive, ever the optimist, still boyishly handsome. Always on a quest to design the perfect environment, convinced it could heal a wounded soul. The conversion was Nick's idea, but it's Zoe who's here now, in a valley of old coalmines and new vineyards, working out how to live in a deconsecrated church. What to do with all that vertical space, those oppressive stained-glass windows? Can a church become a home or, even with all its vestiges removed, will it remain forever what it was intended to be? For Zoe, alone and troubled by a ghost from the recent past, the little church seems empty of the possibilities Nick enthused about. She is stuck in purgatory-until a determined young teacher pushes her way into Zoe's life, convinced of her own peculiar mission for the building. Melanie has something of Nick's unquenchable zeal about her. And it's clear to Zoe that she won't take no for an answer. The Conversion is a startling novel about the homes we live in- how we shape them, and how they shape us. Like Amanda Lohrey's bestselling The Labyrinth, it is distinguished by its deep intelligence, eye for human drama and effortless readability.

Into Your Arms: Nick Cave's Songs Reimagined/Krauth, Kirsten

Australia : Fremantle Press , Australia 2024

288 pages, 23cm

9781760992781

USD : 39.99 / PB

385 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867068>

This stunning follow up to Minds Went Walking- Paul Kelly's Songs Reimagined features Christos Tsiolkas, Cate Kennedy and Andy Griffiths, and is the perfect stocking stuffer for Christmas 2023. From an automaton of Nick Cave, to a man who can't keep his blood out of the food he is preparing; from a vengeful Uber driver to a spinner of souls; and from a boy caught up in a robbery to a girl desperate to save a failing greyhound, the characters who populate this short story anthology could have dropped straight from a Nick Cave song book. These 21 stories, from some of Australia's favourite creators, respond to Cave's visionary genius with their own original and unsettling tales of death, faith, violence and love.

Emergency Exit Only/Upton, Michelle

Australia : HarperCollins Publishers, Australia 2024

352 pages, 23cm

9781460764312

USD : 39.99 / PB

440 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867078>

No evacuation plan, no safety net. Amelia's quitting the daily grind to find her fantasy job. But a shocking secret from the past shows her that where there's smoke, there's fire ... And sometimes you just have to save yourself. A hilarious, big-hearted story about second chances from the author of Terms of Inheritance Amelia Harris has played it safe all her life - but when a minor accident lands her in hospital, she dramatically quits the tedious office job she's been working at for a decade. When her mother, Toni, asks her what she wants to do, Amelia is at a loss. Out of sheer desperation, she tries her hand at the dream jobs she's always

fantasised about. Soon Amelia's shadowing a thrilling cast of characters and professions - as a journalist, a florist, a wedding planner, a zookeeper, and more. Life couldn't be more exciting, especially when she meets the man of her dreams. But when Toni drops a truth bomb about their family, Amelia's whole world tilts on its axis. Meanwhile, each new job starts taking on a life of its own. Has she created a monster? As she's about to find out, where there's smoke, there's fire, and sometimes you just have to save yourself. 'Emily Henry in the Queensland sunshine ... The perfect summer read' Hannah May Reads

Corrupted Kingdom/St. Germain, Lili

Australia : HarperCollins Publishers, Australia 2024

544 pages, 23cm

9781460765258

USD : 39.99 / PB

575 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867079>

How much is a life worth? The scorching dark romance Cartel trilogy by the USA Today bestselling author now in one edition. For all fans of Penelope Douglas, Sylvia Day and Helen Hardt. I grew up in Columbia, the daughter of a wealthy drug lord. I lived a life of extravagance, until one day a drug run went horribly wrong and everything came crashing down around me. I was given away. A payment for a debt. The Gypsy Brothers motorcycle club became my owners, and I did everything I could to survive. But falling in love with the man who owned me wasn't part of the plan ... Before the Gypsy Brothers there was the Cartel — from USA Today bestselling author Lili St Germain. Praise for the Cartel trilogy: 'Awesome job Lili ... I am ready to hop on the back of a bike and join the club!' LiteraryGossip.com 'Sensational, shocking, compelling and totally addictive ... the best when it comes to dark, brooding and bloody romance' Kelly, Perusing Princesses

Question 7/Flanagan, Richard

Australia : Penguin Books, Australia 2024

288 pages, 21cm

9781761343452

USD : 42.00 / HB
455 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867072>

Beginning at a love hotel by Japan's Inland Sea and ending by a river in Tasmania, Question 7 is about the choices we make about love and the chain reaction that follows. By way of H. G. Wells and Rebecca West's affair through 1930s nuclear physics to Flanagan's father working as a slave labourer near Hiroshima when the atom bomb is dropped, this genre-defying daisy chain of events reaches fission when Flanagan as a young man finds himself trapped in a rapid on a wild river not knowing if he is to live or to die. At once a love song to his island home and to his parents, this hypnotic melding of dream, history, literature, place and memory is about how reality is never made by realists and how our lives so often arise out of the stories of others and the stories we invent about ourselves.

Politics

Justice and Hope/Gaita, Raimond & Stephens, Scott
Australia : Melbourne University Press, Australia 2024
600 pages, 25cm
9780522880236
USD : 80.00 / HB
1080 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867065>

The collected writings of Raimond Gaita 'From where will we draw the moral energy to stay true to justice?' For more than three decades the incomparable voice of Raimond Gaita has been summoning us to new conversations that deepen our understanding of what matters most to human life and awaken the sense of our common humanity. For Gaita, we are never more fully alive than when we are fully present to one another in conversation. In a time when modes of communication tend to superficiality and self-promotion, when political debates are increasingly inured to lies and even violence, and the moral demands of dialogue give way to a torrent of competing monologues, Gaita's invitation to rediscover what genuine conversation requires of us could not be more timely.

These collected writings at once invite us into that conversation and enact its severe demands. Gaita asks us to confront the distinctive evil of genocide, to examine the true cost of the 'War on Terror', to interrogate what justice requires in response to Australia's dispossession of its First Peoples, to understand our need for truth in politics, especially during war, to see what is at stake in the decline of the universities, to grasp what was lost during the Black Summer bushfires, and to reckon with the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic-when we learned, he writes, 'how much we needed to touch and hold other people'. Gaita's astonishing range of concerns is held together by the consistency and unrelenting tenderness of his moral vision. To see the world through Gaita's eyes is to discover, once again, what it means to love the world and to remain faithful to it. He tells us that an unconditional love of the world is the deepest form of hope and the truest source of our energies to honour the demands of justice. This is how we learn to be human.

The Locked-up Country/Chodor, Tom & Hameiri, Shahar

Australia : University of Queensland Press, Australia 2024

256 pages, 23cm

9780702266379

USD : 39.99 / PB

295 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867070>

A timely analysis of Australia's response to the pandemic, which asks what have we learned? Donald Horne famously called Australia 'the lucky country'. So how did we become the locked-up country and how might the future look different? Australia has changed enormously since Horne's 1960s, but its response to the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates the enduring truth of his thesis that our 'luck' was undeserved and wouldn't last. By closing its borders and imposing a nationally coordinated lockdown, Australia unexpectedly eliminated COVID-19 in 2020, achieving one of the world's lowest excess mortality rates. But as governments proceeded to bungle key planks of the pandemic response, by mid-2021, Australia was 'locked up' - closed off to the world and fragmented along state and territory borders, with its major cities enduring repeated and extended lockdowns. It soon became clear that Australia's regulatory state had let us down. But these failures were not inevitable, and we can manage future crises more

successfully. In *The Locked-up Country*, political experts Tom Chodor and Shahar Hameiri identify the source of Australia's recent challenges and suggest a better way forward.

Best Australian Political Cartoons 2023/Radcliffe, Russ

Australia : Scribe Publications, Australia 2023

192 pages, 20cm

9781761380587

USD : 42.00 / PB

410 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867073>

The year in politics as observed by Australia's funniest and most perceptive political cartoonists. Featuring Dean Alston, Peter Broelman, Andrew Dyson, John Farmer, First Dog on the Moon, Matt Golding, Fiona Katauskas, Mark Knight, Jon Kudelka, Johannes Leak, Sean Leahy, Alan Moir, David Pope, David Rowe, John Spooner, Andrew Weldon, Cathy Wilcox, and more ...

Sociology

Faking It/Walsh, Toby

Australia : La Trobe University Press, MelbourneAustralia 2024

256 pages, 24cm

9781760644826

USD : 39.99 / PB

370 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=867076>

prescient analysis of what makes artificial intelligence so ... artificial Artificially intelligent machines are set to play an increasingly important role in our lives. They will take the dirty tasks of life off our hands, as well as the dull, the difficult and the dangerous – which is a good thing. But at the heart of AI is a fundamental deceit: its goal is to imitate human intelligence. Although AIs like ChatGPT are powerful and convincing, they are fakes. They lack true understanding, sentience,

consciousness and common sense, the very traits that make our human intelligence so special. The phoniness of AIs is a great weakness, and should be of concern to everyone. Can AI systems be creative? Can they be moral? What can we do to ensure they are not harmful? Will they ever develop consciousness – and if they do, what does this mean for humanity? In this fascinating new book, leading AI expert and author Professor Toby Walsh explores the artificiality of artificial intelligence, and considers the impact it is having on society. The fakery of AI, he argues, threatens to blur the distinction between what is real and what is simulated. It might even throw into question the very essence of what it means to be human. The stakes, therefore, are as high as they could be.
