




















# The readingstack

where you can find a pile of good books

Issue 9, June 2008

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## From The Editor's Desk

*Well, we have had some horrible weather here on the east coast of NSW over the last few weeks. That's good from our point of view. More time to read. There is nothing better than cuddling up in a nice warm doona on a cold rainy day, reading a good book. Now with winter arriving, here are some great books for you to "cosy" up to.*

*Reader reviews can be emailed to  
thereadingstack -at- people.net.au  
(replace -at- with @ when emailing)*

## Dreamland Editor's Choice

by Tom Gilling - the Text Publishing Company. Paperback rrp \$32.95

Three words is all I need to describe this book – "I Love It!".

*Dreamland* was a quick read – twelve hours - because I couldn't put it down! Admittedly this past long weekend was a perfect staying in bed and reading sort of day.

The only disappointing thing about this book was it ended too soon. Obviously there should be a sequel. There has to be. Tom Gilling can't leave me hanging like this forever.

*Dreamland* is about Nick Carmody. He was a criminal reporter who bungled a case and is now relegated to the overseas correspondence desk. But that is the least of Nick's worries.

Nick is an old school friend of Danny Grogan. Danny Grogan's father, Harry, is a billionaire builder who has never been on the wrong side of the law but always

appears to be walking the fine line between right and wrong. Harry has approached Nick to help save Danny from going to jail. Danny has been caught speeding on New Year's Eve. Given his long history of speeding fines and parking tickets this last

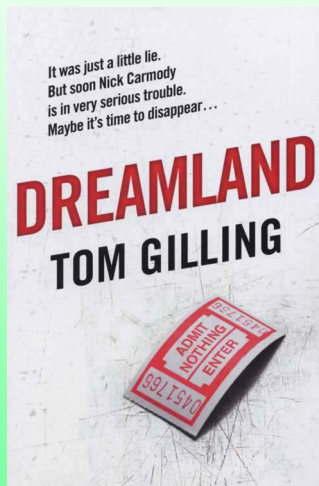
offence will see Danny go to jail. All Nick has to do is say he was driving the car and pay the fine. Harry will ensure Nick is well rewarded for his troubles.

Against his better judgement, Nick agrees. Nick goes to court and swears that he is the driver. He pays the fine. He keeps Harry's cheques – not wanting to cash them – in case he needs them later on. Besides, Nick really doesn't trust Harry.

All is not as it seems. A witness to a hit and run on the night of the speeding ticket identifies Danny's car ... and Nick. Then Danny is found dead of a "supposed" drug overdose.

Nick's one lie has landed him in serious trouble and he has to disappear. He moves to another state and starts a new life. But often it is better the devil you know than the devil you don't!

This has to be one of my best reads in a long time except it was too short and the ending is not what I wanted to hear... I have one overwhelming question. What happens next?



# Barbed Wire and Roses

by **Peter Yeldham** – Penguin. Paperback rrp \$24.95

I do not like war stories – or so I thought! *Barbed Wire and Roses* has proved me wrong! At the same time I sat down to read this book my attention was distracted by 60 Minutes on television and coincidentally the show was about scientists finding the remains of missing Australian soldiers who fought in the battle of Somme. The screen showed the exact battle area I was reading about. A bit spooky. But now, after reading *Barbed Wire and Roses*, I can envisage what it was like then and how it would have looked.

Stephen Conway is in his first year at university studying for a law degree when he enlists to fight for King and Empire. Before shipping out in November 1914 he marries his childhood sweetheart and has a rushed five day honeymoon. He won't be long – the war will be finished by Christmas.

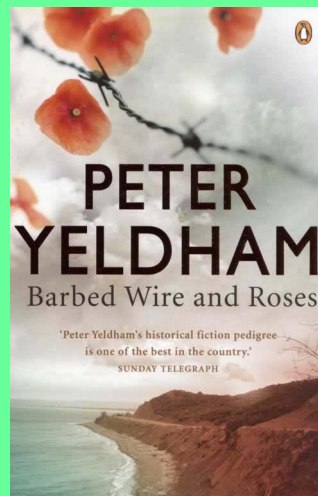
Four years later and half a world away he is still fighting. But so much has

changed. Questions are being raised about why they are fighting for land that means nothing to Australians. And what of the mental and physical side effects this has had on Stephen and others like him.

Stephen Conway survives the war. But he will never meet his son nor his grandson. We pick up the story one more generation away.

Stephen's grandson Patrick was always led to believe that his grandfather died in the last days of the great war somewhere in France. But then, whilst cleaning up his father's effects after his death, he comes across a diary more than eighty years after the war has ended. It is Stephen's.

The story is one many people will relate to. A relative's life in World War I is researched by a later generation. One which has not had to live through major wars where nearly every second man



failed to return. One which is comfortable in our knowledge that we are safe from this heart ache and tragedy.

Peter Yeldham has made history appealing to all readers.

*Barbed Wire and Roses* is fiction but with accurate historic details included that make it a credible story. I am embarrassed to admit how little I knew of our efforts to the European war. And my own grandfather fought in France! I would love to go there but even if I don't, I can imagine. Thank you Mr Yeldham.

[www.peteryeldham.com](http://www.peteryeldham.com)

## The Book of Fame

by **Lloyd Jones** - Text Publishing. Paperback rrp \$29.95

Guest Reviewed by **Anastasia Gonis**

It is clear right from the beginning why this book won the Deutz Medal for Fiction. Its style is sparse and almost minimalist, yet full and lush with its poetic prose. This is a sporting novel 'bedded in research'; a mixture of fact and imagination that reads like a biography, in a style that's intimate and revealing. It is about the All Blacks rugby team of 1905, who leave for a tour of England and Europe, and how the trip changes their lives forever.

The characters, 27 in the party,

are all New Zealanders who have never left their home shore and are faced with all the loneliness and the homesickness that is to be expected in such circumstances. Though they have played together, for some, the six weeks at sea brings them closer in a new and intimate way, as time and close proximity encourages them to share snippets of their personal lives.

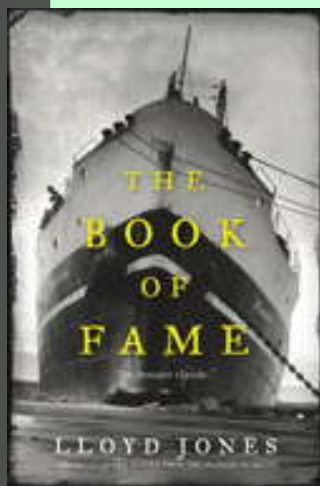
Here Jones' writing becomes almost erotic in its beauty. The descriptions of the men's internal thoughts are beyond poetry.

The story and settings give a strong sense of time and place so that the reader feels present in every single sentence, from the weather and the swell of the sea, to the birds and fish they sight. There are descriptions of the ports they stop at and the people they come into contact with;

what they did to entertain themselves from dances complete with dance cards, to quoits and fancy dress balls. Their whole itinerary is catalogued.

Then there are the minute details of play and scores from the games played against every country. The menus from the places they ate, the songs the orchestras played, the women they encountered, and the secrets they were forced to keep upon their return, are pooled together to create this magnificent read.

But above all that is said, are the things left unsaid that make Jones' style more powerful. It is his sparse presentation of thought that leaves the reader satisfied yet wanting more as they call up the images he so remarkably provokes through his strong narrative voice.



## The Case of the Imaginary Detective

by **Karen Joy Fowler** — Penguin. Paperback rrp \$32.95

*The Case of the Imaginary Detective* is a story of one woman's loss, another woman's gain and another's pain.

Rima is a 29 year old whose father has just died of leukaemia. Her mother died of an aneurysm 15 years ago and her brother died in an alcohol related car accident four years ago.

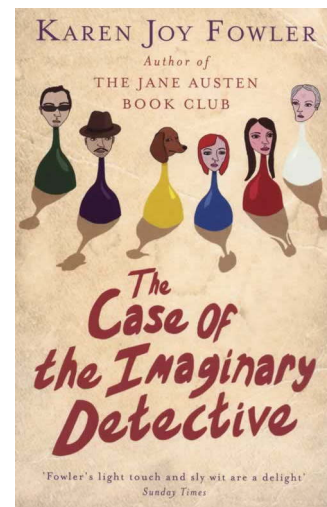
To help deal with the ultimate loss of all her immediate family, she decides to stay with her eccentric godmother, Addison. Addison is a best-selling mystery writer and the creator of a very famous fictional detective. Detective Maxwell Lane has been in 28 novels, 8 films and 3 TV series. Because Addison has fiercely protected her privacy over the years, fans have started to treat her hero as more real than Addison

herself.

Now Addison is having trouble finishing her latest book and on the internet, fans are starting to create their own stories. When one of Addison/Maxwell's "fans" starts contacting Rima, she soon forgets her family loss and becomes a detective in a mystery of her own. Rima doesn't want Addison to know.

To complicate Rima's life, Addison's housekeeper, Tilda, is discovering a new relationship with her son, Martin who she abandoned as a child. Now Martin is coming to stay more and more often. Is it because he wants to bond with his mother or see Rima? Neither Tilda nor Rima can tell.

*The Case of the Imaginary Detective* contains plots within plots to keep the [karenjoyfowler.com](http://karenjoyfowler.com)



reader guessing. But the answers are not what you expect and that is the best part – an unpredictable and enjoyable read.

## The Nearly Happy Family

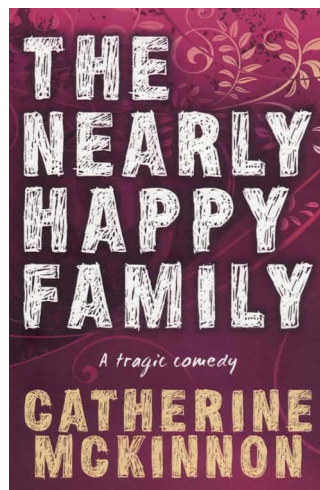
by **Catherine McKinnon** - Penguin. Paperback rrp \$32.95

Most of us would say that we have problems within our families. I know I do. But after reading *The Nearly Happy Family* I now think that everyone is normal and every family is slightly askew.

Jackie and Claire Delaney are mother and daughter. Jackie is in her 40's and Claire is 15. Vince, Jackie's life partner and Claire's father, recently died in tragic circumstances. Is it Vince's death that drives these two to make the life changing decisions that ultimately punish each other? Or is it their volatile mother daughter relationship which was always there below the surface?

Claire is a strong-willed girl who helps look after her two younger siblings and, at times, her own free spirited mother. Against her mother's wishes she decides to leave school and apprentice to an Italian chef who teaches her the secrets of his trade. He is a perfectionist, making Claire feel that she may have made the wrong

choice. But she is too proud to admit this, especially to her mother and stubbornly continues.



Jackie is throwing away all her past values and beliefs to marry a younger man. She's not even sure if she really loves him. Claire knows she hates him and makes Jackie's life miserable. Jackie suspects she might be

marrying him to goad Claire, but she goes ahead with her plans anyway.

And entwined around these two women, is another layer of family - Jackie's two sisters, Liz and Sophie, and her father, T.J. They bring another layer

of problems, complexity and complication.

It is so easy to envisage Claire and Jackie as two lions circling around each other ready to pounce on a piece of dead meat. Who will win? And what is it they are fighting over?

*The Nearly Happy Family* is a wonderful story about love and family relationships - between mothers and daughters, siblings and parents. It is about how we treat each other and how we cope with tragic circumstances. I loved it and felt completely at home in the Delaney household.

The story is told from both Claire and Jackie's viewpoints, chapter by chapter. I would recommend this both to adults and teenagers alike. The reader may choose to empathise with Jackie or Claire, or even both. There are always two sides of the story and it's never easy to decide who is right. Just like every other family I know!

# Barack Obama - Dreams From My father

by Barack Obama - Text Publishing. Paperback rrp \$24.95

## Guest Reviewed by Anastasia Gonis

*'I learned to slip back and forth between my black and white worlds'.*

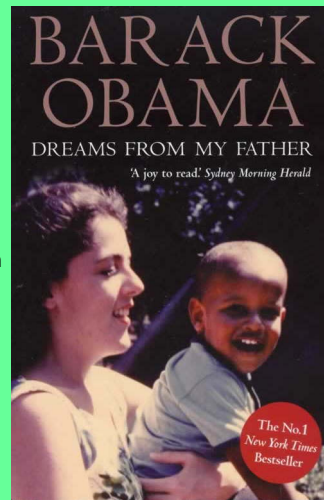
Throughout this book we see a life studded with revelations in the search for identity, place and purpose, by the man who appears to be heading towards the White House as the first black African American president.

Barack Obama was born of a black African father, and a white American mother. The two met at the University of Hawaii and married during the 1960s when interracial marriages were unheard of. When Barack was two, his father returned to Kenya, to a new wife and family. Barack learned about his absent parent from his mother and maternal grandparents through stories and snatches of information during conversational remembrances and a short meeting with him when he was ten years old. It wasn't until Barack returned to Kenya as an adult to trace his origins and find his other family that he was able to identify who he was, and take up

his place in the world.

This book was first written ten years ago by Obama to realise his dream of becoming a writer. Little did he know that it would be a resource for people to learn about the prominent public figure that we know today.

This is an intelligent and candid narrative written in casual, conversational tones, filling the pages with images of all that went before in this significant man's life. His style reflects the same confidence and command of language demonstrated in his speeches. Obama's view of the world (a view taught to him by his mother) reflective and philosophical, is both moving and illuminating. Filtering through the background is a great deal of history about the African American people, and the Kenyans with their unusual but fascinating customs regarding marriage



and the position of women in their society.

Obama describes everything with such visual clarity, especially the natural surroundings, where the reader is transported to that street, under that tree with flaming leaves falling; from smells heavy on the

misted air through to the anguish of the black youth in their search for expression.

Anastasia Gonis is a freelance non fiction writer and reviewer for Good Reading magazine, Buzz Words and occasional contributor to Bookseller & Publisher.

# Finding Darcy

by Sue Lawson - black dog books. Paperback rrp \$18.99

Has your family got a secret? Is there someone that you aren't allowed to talk about? If you mention a certain name does the rest of your family begin acting very strange?

Darcy Abbott's family has a secret – and Darcy needs to know what it is. But how to find out without upsetting her great grandmother, grandmother and mother will be the hard part.

Darcy is given a school assignment. She must write about someone in the family who experienced World War II. Darcy only knows of one person – Darcy Fletcher – her great grandfather. But her mother tells Darcy to ask for a change in subject as DC Fletcher is a taboo subject within the family. Why can't Darcy ask her great grandmother or grandmother about him?

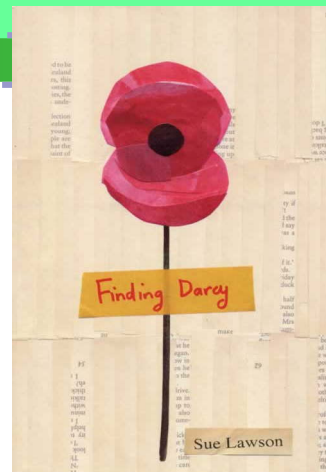
While Darcy's mum goes to Melbourne for a few months to update her nursing

qualifications, Darcy must live with her grandmother, who she nicknames 'Misery' Even worse, 'Batty', Darcy's great grandmother and Darcy Fletcher's wife, is moving in too. Can Darcy live with Misery and Batty and still do her project?

*'What's this new topic?'  
'World War... I bit into a biscuit, 'Two.'  
Batty's book fell to the floor with a thud,  
followed by her plate.  
Misery missed the cup and tea splashed  
over her hand and the table.*

Darcy's research leads her to the Japanese ship, Montevideo Maru, sunk by the US off the New Guinea coast. Locked in the hold of this boat were over 1000 Australian prisoners-of-war.

Fiction firmly based in Australian history, *Finding Darcy* is a book which will help young readers not only understand the effects of war, but maybe understand their



own families a little more.

Initially I hesitated to read *Finding Darcy* as I am not

really a history buff and definitely not into World War history. But the cover enticed me and the story held me there. From the first page to the last I was extremely moved, and in the end the tears on my face were for not only Darcy and her family, but for my own. Now I am inspired to research my own father who fought somewhere in the same region as DC Fletcher. He too, when asked about the war, made it a taboo subject. Like Darcy I never understood but perhaps, like her, I eventually will.

[www.suelawson.com.au](http://www.suelawson.com.au)

# Three Wishes

by **Isabelle Merlin** - Random House. Paperback rrp \$16.95

Between the title, the cover and the back blurb - I was hooked. I was looking forward to reading this book when a voice beside me said: "Mum, Can I read this?". This from a 12 year-old who asks to read a book ... like ... NEVER! I said: "No. I want to." But then I saw her face. So like parents always do, I compromised. "I'm the fastest reader so I'll finish it quickly and you can read it after me!" There. Diplomatically settled!

And that is exactly what happened.

Rose lives in Australia. Her parents were killed in a car accident when she was young so she lives with her mother's sister. It's an ordinary life. She goes to school, she has her friends and she wishes really hard. Like most girls she dreams of a fairy tale life where she is rich, and living happily ever after in her castle.

For a school assignment, the class must create blogs. Rose creates one with the title "Three Wishes".

*I'm going to ask this question: What would you wish for, if some fairy popped up in your*

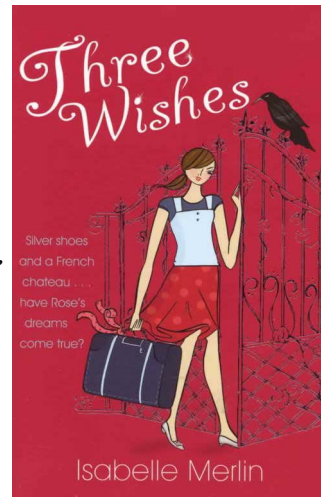
*life and offered you three wishes? And I'm going to ask my friends--and anyone out there who feels like contributing--what they would ask for, if they had three wishes. Careful what you wish for, though.*

The complete blog can be viewed at [fairychild3wishes.blogspot.com](http://fairychild3wishes.blogspot.com).

And then the fairy tale begins. Rose finds out she has a rich grandfather who lives in France.

Her father had had a fight with his father and left home never to see him again. After a series of strokes Rose's grandfather tries to locate his son only to find out he has died. He also learns that he has a 16 year old granddaughter living in Australia.

Rose travels to France to spend some time with her aristocratic French grandfather and to find out more about her newly discovered heritage. She is treated like a princess. She has servants, a beautiful castle, a loving grandfather and plenty of money to buy what she likes. She even meets the boys of her dreams. Everything is perfect.



Or is it? ... Careful what you wish for... her blog had said. When her fairytale turns to mystery and murder, Rose wishes she could return to her dull

and boring life in Australia.

This is a wonderful pre-teen, teenage girls story. Some adults, like me, will enjoy it also. It is exciting and fast paced with a completely unexpected ending. Rose's blog spot and her friends comments is a wonderfully interactive technology twist – and one ironically which will also bring a young adult reader back to the paper trail. Buy it for your daughter but be warned – you will be fighting over who gets to read it first!

[www.bebo.com/Profile.jsp?MemberId=4583320935](http://www.bebo.com/Profile.jsp?MemberId=4583320935)

## short

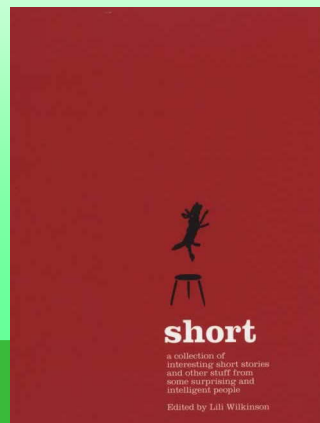
Edited by **Lili Wilkinson** - black dog books. Paperback rrp \$19.99

Guest Reviewer - **Caitlin** - aged 12 years

This was a really good book. There are lots of different stories with lots of different genres (mum's word). There are funny stories, poems and comics.

Some stories I enjoyed a lot like *Pickle Man* which is a comic and I really enjoyed all the funny ones.

There are a couple of pictures throughout the book and they make it fun to read.



The book was hard to put down because it was so interesting. To make the book even better on the right hand corner there is a dog with a bone and when you flick the pages you can see it jumping for the bone.

Note from Editor: *short*

is a collection of interesting short stories and other 'literary stuff' from an array of talented Aussie authors – including Andy Griffiths, Carole Wilkinson, Sue Lawson, Michael Panckridge, Heath McKenzie. And for the record, I too found this book hard to put down and my favourite piece was also *Pickle Man*. And *Haiku*!

**SAD SILENT** mobile  
*Soundless as a sliding tear  
If only you'd ring*

# The Faceless Fiend

by **Howard Whitehouse**. Illustrated by **Bill Slavin**

— ABC Books. Paperback rrp \$14.95

*The Faceless Fiend* is the story of three teenage children - Emmaline Cayley, Robert 'Rubberbones' Burns and Princess Purnah of Chilgrit. They are aided and abetted by eccentric Aunt Lucy, the nutty American inventor Professor Bellbuckle and Lal Singh, Aunt Lucy's mysterious and heroic butler.

On one level, *The Faceless Fiend* is a mix of mad-cap anecdotes of the Professor's crazy carrying-ons as he teaches the three children how to fly and pilot the steam contraptions he has invented. But the main storyline follows the criminal mastermind, the Faceless Fiend, whose face was blown

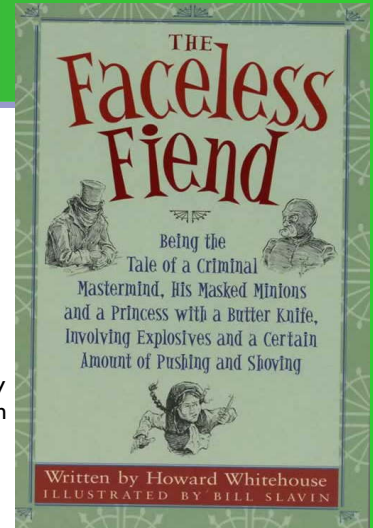
off when one of the Professor's inventions went wrong.

Princess Purnah is the only heir to the throne of Chilgrit – somewhere in Europe, bordering Russia. The Faceless Fiend intends to kidnap her and take her to Russia. The Russians intend to use her to take over Chilgrit and its people.

The Faceless Fiend is a most feared assassin and nobody has ever stood in his way when he wants something. But then he hasn't come across Aunt Lucy, Emmaline, Rubberbones, or Lal Singh before. And that's when the best adventures begin.

Set in the early 1900's in England *The Faceless Fiend*, is a really

rollicking story - like no other I know. There are gargoyles, Sherlock Holmes, flying balloons, talking contraptions and new steam driven cars. Enhanced by Bill Slavin's illustrations, this book is fun and young readers will be enjoying a bit of English history at the same time.



# the Number One Aussie Counting Book

by **Heath McKenzie** - black dog books. Paperback rrp \$14.99

I have a lot of counting books in my house. Over the years, with the birth of each of my three children, I have bought some or have been given others as presents.

What I now realise is that there were a number of things missing in ALL of them!

Firstly, young children's number books generally only go to ten or sometimes twelve. Most four year olds can count to at least 20. My youngest who is 4½ can count a bit further... with a bit of help from his older siblings. the

*Number One Aussie Counting Book* goes to 21. Just far enough to demonstrate the repetition, ie after ten it is 11, then after 20 it is 21. A key early mathematical concept.

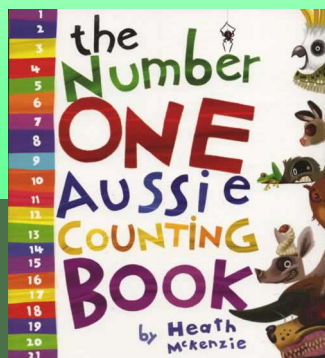
Secondly, how many counting books are totally Australian? From the *Three lilting lyrebirds*, *Nine kooky echidnas*, and *Twelve dinki-di*

*Tasmanian devils*, the pages are filled with well known and loved Australian animals. There are even some

that are not so well loved like red-back spiders, bogong moths, honey ants and witchetty grubs. Of course there are everyone's favourites such as the koala, kangaroo and platypus.

Lastly, this is a large book with brilliant drawings by Heath McKenzie – bright, bold and beautiful. The mischievous animals look like they are having fun and so will young readers. I think we need more such books for young children and it is a great export product – buy Australian

[www.heathmck.com](http://www.heathmck.com)



# So you want to be Prime Minister?

by **Nicholas Brasch**. Illustrated by **David Rowe**

- black dog books. Softcover rrp \$16.99

Finally! A guide for young would-be Prime Ministers, filled with facts, both funny and serious. There have been 31 Prime Ministers to date, although Francis Forde was only in the job for eight days in 1945.

Based on past performance, if you want to become Prime Minister then it will help if you:

- live in Victoria (nine Prime Ministers)
- work as a lawyer for your first job (eleven)
- have a first or second name beginning with J (twelve)
- love cricket (seven)

Only one Prime Minister had red hair, James Scullin, who served from 1929 to 1932. And there's never been a female Prime Minister, although Enid Lyons, the wife of Prime Minister Joseph Lyons, raised 12 children and became the first woman member of the House of Representatives and of Federal Cabinet.

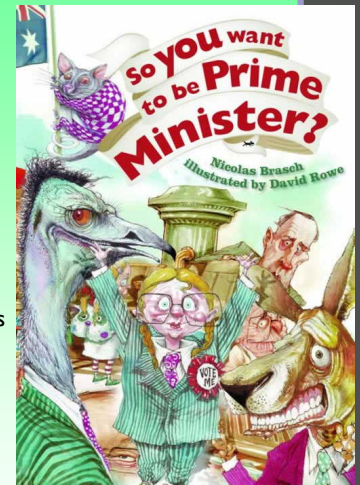
Many facts are fun. Former Prime Minister Paul Keating once managed a rock band. Bob Hawke held a world beer drinking record. John Gorton cast the tie-breaker to vote himself out of office and also invented a rat trap.

Award winning cartoonist David Rowe's clever combinations of photo and illustration are colourfully irreverent and humorous. Imagine the heads of

Gough Whitlam, John Gorton and Malcolm Fraser on the bodies of AFL

footballers. After all, they were from Victoria too.

This book is learning made fun. A great addition to primary school libraries.



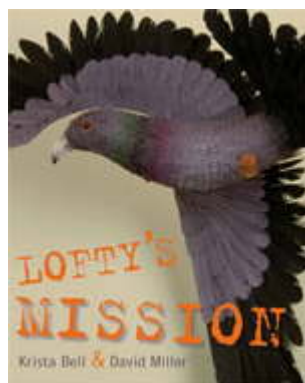
# Lofty's Mission

by **Krista Bell**. Illustrated by **David Miller** - Lothian (Hachette Livre) Hardback rrp \$28.99

Not so long ago a young boy asked me if a cat had ever won a medal. We did a little internet surfing together and discovered the Dickin medal for animal bravery. One cat had indeed won it but surprisingly, so had over 30 pigeons, including two from Australia.

Lofty's Mission is the fictional story of one of those pigeons. Harley McNamara bred Lofty to be a champion racer. But it is wartime and everyone is expected to make sacrifices. The army needs top homing pigeons to use as messengers. Lofty is now Number 371.

Lofty completes a training programme in



Queensland and is sent to New Guinea. His squadron is ambushed and Lofty is their only hope for rescue. If Lofty delivers his message reinforcements will arrive. Number 371 flies through enemy gunfire and despite being injured, delivers his life-saving message.

Harley is also fighting a battle. He has fallen ill with polio and even after he is released from hospital, he is bedridden while he recovers. He thinks about Lofty all the time.

Then the medal arrives. And even better, Lofty is discharged and returned to Harley. Lofty will never fly again

but he has a new life as a stock bird and his children will win races for both Harley and Lofty.

David Miller's incredibly detailed paper sculpture illustrations are realistic to the point where my young co-reader reached out to run his fingers along the pigeon's feathers. The illustrations also provide an authentic 1940's atmosphere.

This is a carefully researched book full of information about wartime, racing pigeons and other snippets – too many to mention. You can find clues in the Glossary at the back. The story itself is fiction but it is firmly based on historical fact. There is learning to be had here – the best kind – the sort that's fun.

[www.kristabell.com](http://www.kristabell.com)

# The Dog on the Tuckerbox

by Corinne Fenton. Illustrated by Peter Gouldthorpe

- black dog books. Hardback rrp \$24,99

This is an iconic Australian tale of the bush handled exactly as it deserves to be – with a strong sense of history and pride in our pioneer past.

Bill is a bullock driver, bringing supplies and news to the settlers in remote bush

areas. Lady is his constant and loyal companion – a little dog with a huge heart. When a stray bull charges, Lady is quick to defend Bill. She almost dies. But Lady is a survivor and with Bill's tender care, pulls through.

almost haunting but always just right for little ears. *In and out of the homesteads and all along the winding tracks, Lady left her footprints.*

Peter Gouldthorpe's illustrations are lifelike and again, there is a wonderful sense of history. The pages look and feel as if they were painted centuries ago. They transport the reader back to the days of bush and bullocky and Lady and Bill.

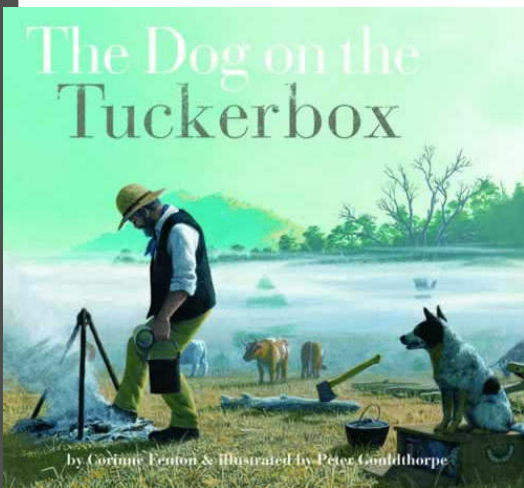
In 1932 a monument of a dog sitting on a tuckerbox was erected five miles from Gundagai. Now we have the full story...

Recommended classroom, bedtime and anytime reading.

When the wagon is bogged and an axle breaks, Bill goes to get help. He sits Lady on the tuckerbox and tells her to keep watch and to wait for him. And she does, even though Bill never returns. Passers by feed her and still she maintains her post, as faithful and patient as ever.

The language is simple but beautiful, evocative of the bush and a time long ago. At times it is

[www.corinnefenton.com](http://www.corinnefenton.com)



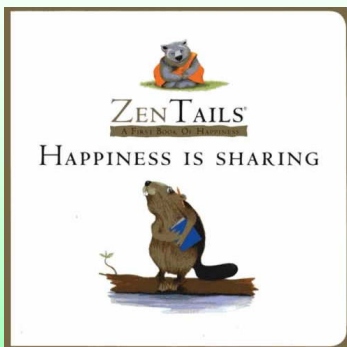
# Zen Tails

by Peter Whitfield. Illustrated by Nancy Bevington -

New Frontier Publishing. Board Book rrp \$9.95 each

This set of three board books is beautifully presented and each contains a wonderfully uplifting message. The titles tell all. *Zen Tails: A First Book of Wisdom – Wisdom is Listening.* *Zen Tails: A First Book of Love – Love is Helping.* *Zen Tails: A First Book of Happiness – Happiness is Sharing.*

These are books which can be read on many levels. In their simplest form, they are animal stories the young listener, or reader, will immediately relate to. The illustrations are glorious and the creatures have highly expressive faces. Bored Monkey twirls a butterfly on his



finger, Grizzel Bear grumps and Fur Ball the cat is wet and cranky.

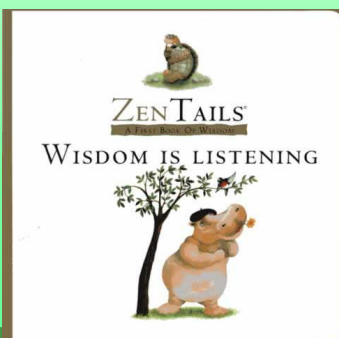
The messages of sharing, helping and listening are conveyed without fuss and fanfare. The Zen connotations are self-evident. As the reader grows and develops a wider understanding of their world

socially and culturally, the stories can take on extra meaning. Guru Walter Wombat (love) is swaddled cross-legged in an orange sari. There's St

Bernard (action) and Shri Shelly (wisdom) too.

For detailed information on the all the characters and their traits, visit the Zen Tails website [www.zentails.com](http://www.zentails.com). There, in addition to the teachers, you will find the students – Bruno (fearlessness), Pierre Potamus (compassion) and Gilbert B Beaver (studiousness) – and the fools – Fur Ball (laziness), Monkey (agitation) and Grizzel Bear (anger).

As well as the board books, the Zen Tails series includes four picture books which can be purchased as hard copy books or downloaded from the website as e-books. An internet bargain at \$1.99 each.



Web Site: [www.dimorrissey.com](http://www.dimorrissey.com)



## DI MORRISSEY

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Iconic Australian poet Dorathea Mackellar was her friend and mentor. Legendary Chips Rafferty was her godfather.

Did you know in 2000 Di released a children's book *Buster and the Queen Bee* (Harper Collins)?

Visit her web site to read her fascinating life story and some behind the scenes information on her books.

Di Morrissey is arguably Australia's best known and best selling female novelist. She trained as a journalist and became Women's Editor for The Daily Mail Group in London. She had her own television program in the United States on CBS and hosted Good Morning Australia in the 1980s, in addition to writing for radio, TV, film and theatre.

## THE BOOKS



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