

# The ones that got away

Surprise, surprise, the cricket titles have started bowling their way onto the shelves. Here's what else we missed reviewing ...

## Nonfiction

*True Green Home* (Kim McKay & Jenny Bonnin, ABC Books, October) features 100 very handy, simple tips on living a greener home-life; and celebrate the enduring Aussie spirit with *War Behind the Wire: Australian Prisoners of War* (ed. Michael Caulfield, Hachette Australia, November).

*Live & Cookin' at Lizotte's Restaurant* (Brian Lizotte, New Holland, November) is not just packed with fine food, but musical memories; Ruth Wajnryb observes words in *Snippets of Ruth* (Drum Publishing, October); as does Peter Bowler in *The Superior Person's Field Guide to Deceitful, Deceptive & Downright Dangerous Language* (UNSW Press, November).

Football fans get ready for *Stand Your Ground*—Kevin Sheedy's adventurous biography (Pan, November)—from his working-class Melbourne background to worldwide travels and 27 years as coach of Essendon. While on sport, Adam Gilchrist's *My Life* is released in November, *Shane Warne's Century: My Top 100 Test Cricketers* (October) should be a treat for any cricket buff; and satisfy the hobbies with *A Collector's Year* (Adrian Franklin, New South, October) or by celebrating 'blokes and their magnificent obsessions' in *Big Boys' Toys* (Scott McGregor, A&U, November).

Zahra and Saeed fled Iran but ended up enclosed in Woomera Detention Centre in Australia—they faced psychological damage and even death as opposed to freedom. *The Bitter Shore* (Jacquie Everitt, Pan, October) tells their story; and in *Blind Conscience* Margot O'Neill presents the stories of those who fought for the release of asylum seekers and changed government policy.

Robert Logan Jack's great-granddaughter delves into the life of this geologist and explorer of the late 19th century in *Putting Queensland on the Map* (UNSW Press, September); and the 'Your Rights at Work' campaign is explored in *Worth Fighting For* (Kathie Muir, UNSW Press, November).

Michael Hussey has lived and breathed cricket since he was 12 years old. *Mr Cricket: Driven to Succeed* (Michael Hussey with David Sygall, Hardie Grant, November) is not just his story, but as the publisher says 'the essential cricket companion for 2008'.

Authentic meditation is all about 'living', and *Awakening* (Yogi Brahamasamhara, Rockpool, November) is a warmly written guide for those both new and experienced; learn how to grow and use fresh herbs with *Herbs for Australian Gardens 3rd ed.* (Penny Woodward, Hyland House, September); plan your gap year with Lonely Planet's *The Big Trip* (George Dunford et al., November); or live it up on holiday in New Zealand with *Friars Guide to New Zealand Accommodation for the Discerning Traveller 2009* (John & Lois Allen, Hodder Moa, November).

## Fiction

The writers in *Herdng Kites* (Affirm Press, October) display the power, diversity and talent within contemporary young Australian literature. For the most part it's more established authors that are collected in this year's *The Best Australian Stories*, this time edited by Delia Falconer (Black Inc.)—*The Best Australian Essays* (ed. David Marr) and *The Best Australian Poems* (ed. Peter Rose) are also out November.

Unfortunately we didn't get Kate Grenville's *The Lieutenant* (Text, October) in time for review, but she hardly needs an introduction. Text calls it 'a compelling story about friendship and self-discovery by a writer at the peak of her powers'; and Juliet Marillier also has a newbie *Heir to Sevenwaters* (Pan, November).

## Children's nonfiction

Dr Karl Kruszelnicki has been informing and entertaining both adults and children for years with his accessible scientific-factoid collections. The latest is *Science is Golden* (HarperCollins, November).

For more facts, but of a sporting kind, Tony Davis has *The Mad, Mad World of Sports* (A&U, November), and share some timeless rhymes in the gorgeous illustrated hardcover *Can You Keep a Secret?* (Jobi Murphy & Mark Carthew, Random House).

Get into Chrissie with Roland Harvey's *Big Book of Christmas* (A&U, November) and *The Great Australian Carols, Activity & Song Book* (Book Group Australia), illustrated by Sian Naylor and featuring all your favourites so you can sing along (unless you're a bookseller in a shopping centre who may want to strangle Santa instead!).

## Children's and YA fiction

*Surprise!* (Karen Andrews, illus. Kim Fleming, October) is a gorgeous picture book which unsurprisingly has its own surprise in store!

Kids who love cricket or just a good yarn can pick up three-in-one in November with *Toby Jones: Hat Trick* (Michael Panckridge, Angus & Robertson), it's a bind-up of three Toby Jones adventures, a weighty collection to while away summer afternoons after some backyard cricket.

In *The Floods: Top Gear* (Colin Thompson, Random, September) the witch and wizard family are disguised as hippies and on the run from their worst enemy; and for teens there's the next 'Girlfriend' title *Cassie* (Barry Jonsberg, A&U, November); plus *Cruisin'* by Brian Caswell (Woolshed Press, October), and *Everything Beautiful by Notes From the Teenage Underground* author Simone Howell, (Pan, November).

