

●●● ADULT NON-FICTION
VOLWASSE VAKLEKTUUR

FIERRO, Ethan

The outdoor shower: creative design ideas for backyard living, from the functional to the fantastic.- Storey, 2006.

With the start of summer many will appreciate the use of an outdoor shower, especially after working in the garden on a hot day, or after a long bout of jogging or any other demanding physical activity.

The author, who has twenty years of experience as a designer and builder, offers a wonderful selection of inspirational ideas for constructing an outdoor shower that could best satisfy your needs.

He offers plenty of practical information with regard to basic plumbing and structural requirements, and he incorporates a wide range of building materials. The attractive and clever use of colour photographs, selectively chosen by the author, clearly illustrates the accessible and inspirational text.

EB

FRASER, Antonia, Lady

Love and Louis XIV: the women in the life of the Sun King.- Weidenfeld, 2006.

Antonia Fraser is an established and well-regarded writer of historical works. In her latest, she turns to King Louis XIV of France, with the focus on the various women who played an important role in his life. These included his mother, Anne of Austria, his first love, Cardinal Mazarin's niece Marie Mancini, his wife, Maria Teresa, his sister-in-law Henriette-Anne (sister of Charles II of England), his mistresses Louise de la Valliere and the Marquise de Montespan, Françoise Scarron (Madame de Maintenon), who was governess to his bastard children and whom he married secretly in his old age, and Adelaide, wife of his grandson. This is popular-level but well-presented historical biography, attractively illustrated with colour plates.

MJI

GROGAN, John

Marley & me: life and love with the world's worst dog.- Hodder, 2006.

Journalist John Grogan and his wife Jenny had been married for little over a year when they decided to get a dog. They bought a cute golden Labrador retriever puppy they named Marley. Labradors, John read, are calm, gentle, even-tempered, affectionate, intelligent, and easily trained. Not Marley. He turned out to be hyperactive, destructive and totally incorrigible and he grew into a large, strong dog. He crashed through numerous screen doors. He ate everything in sight, whether edible or not. He was expelled from obedience school. He swallowed a valuable gold chain. And so it went on. But Marley was without doubt affectionate - a most loyal and loving dog, who for 13 years was an important part of the Grogan family's life. Many have written about their beloved pets, but few have done it this well. Grogan's very readable account, seasoned with a little pathos and a strong dash of humour, should have great appeal for dog-lovers.

MJI

HAGEE, John

Wat elke man in 'n vrou wil hê / John Hagee.

Wat elke vrou in 'n man wil hê / Diana

Hagee.- CUM, 2006.

In hul nuwe twee-in-een boek: **Wat elke man in 'n vrou wil hê / Wat elke vrou in 'n man wil hê** verskaf pastorale paartjie John Hagee en sy vrou Diana, praktiese riglyne oor die geheimenisse van 'n suksesvolle huwelik. Hagee het onderhoude gevoer met duisende mans en vroue en hulle gevra om die tien belangrikste eienskappe neer te pen wat hulle in 'n lewensmaat wil hê. Die teks, geskryf vanuit 'n geestelike perspektief, verskaf 'n insiggewende blik op die verwagtinge wat mans en vroue teenoor mekaar koester. 'n Ideale teks vir egpare wat hul huweliksband wil versterk.

EMW

HAWN, Goldie with HOLDEN, Wendy

A lotus grows in the mud.- Bantam, 2006.

Do not expect any scandal or juicy bits in this inspirational and rather unconventional autobiography by American actress Goldie Hawn. Goldie Hawn is not the ditsy blonde she so often portrays in her movies but rather a woman with strong spiritual interests, carrying a deep devotion for her husband Kurt Russell and her four children.

It would seem that the actress is not too interested in discussing her career or her love life, although she does explore her childhood years by mentioning her desire to be a ballerina and revealing her slowness at school.

She does, however, cover her breaking into show business during the 1960s in the successful television show *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-in* and her big break movie **Cactus Flower**.

What the author really wants to share is her attitude to life and her spiritual journey, looking at certain life-changing events and offering life-skills advice along the way.

EB

JAMISON, Christopher

Finding sanctuary: monastic steps for everyday life.- Weidenfeld, 2006.

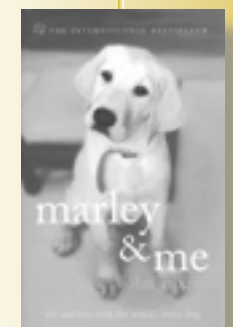
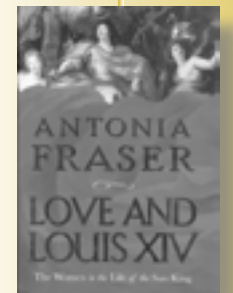
Abbot Christopher Jamison of Worth Abbey looks at how monastic practices and the teachings of St Benedict can be used by ordinary lay people to build up their spiritual life in the over-busy modern world. He discusses such topics as silence, contemplation, humility and hope. The abbot was encouraged to write the book when he saw the interest sparked by a British television series about the experiences of five men who spent 40 days living with the monks of Worth. Though the programme and its participants are mentioned, the book is something quite separate. Presented in readable style, this is thoughtful and serious yet practical and accessible.

MJI

MAXWELL, John C

Die 360 grade leier: ontwikkel jou invloed vanaf enige plek in jou organisasie.- Struik Christelike Boeke, 2006.

'Jy hoef nie aan die hoof van 'n organisasie te staan om 'n organisasie te lei nie', aldus leierskapfundi, John





Maxwell. Volgens Maxwell kan jy leer om jou invloed te ontwikkel deur te lei vanuit enige posisie binne 'n maatskappy. Dit wil sê: jy kan sywaarts, opwaarts en afwaarts lei. Bogenoemde is maar een van die vele mites wat Maxwell probeer hokslaan in sy nuwe boek: **Die 360 grade leier: ontwikkel jou invloed vanaf enige plek in jou organisasie.** Maxwell fokus ook op die uitdagings wat 360 grade leiers in die gesig staar en bespreek die beginsels wat hulle moet toepas om opwaarts, afwaarts en sywaarts te lei. Stimulerend en insiggewend!

EMW



NORTON, Michael

365 ways to change the world.- Double Storey, 2006.

This local edition of a book first published last year in the United Kingdom has been specially adapted for South Africa. The author is the founder of Directory of Social Change, an agency providing information, training and support to voluntary organisations. Amongst other organisations and projects he established is the Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action (CIVA) that promotes innovation and new thinking on the role of charities. 365 ways is one of CIVA's projects. It is a guide for anyone who wants to make a difference, who wants to improve the world in some way, no matter how small. It also tries to change the way we think about our own actions and the consequences of those actions. The book is arranged so that there is one idea for every day of the year. The ideas and tips fit into 12 broad themes: *Community and neighbourhood, Culture and creativity, Democracy and human rights, Discrimination, Employment and enterprise, Environment, Globalisation and consumerism, Health, International development, Peace, Volunteering and citizenship, and Young people.* The contents are wide-ranging, some of them very practical, others more thought provoking. The index is arranged according to the themes mentioned above. I think this is a weakness: looking up a term in an alphabetical list is much simpler than first having to identify the theme before one can look it up. To find out about organ donation, I had to decide that it was in 'health' before looking it up. That is, however, a small criticism; overall this book is both useful and informative.

SCG

SNYMAN, Wilna

Memoires.- Hemel & See, 2006.

Wilna Snyman is 'n ou bekende in Suid-Afrikaanse huise. Sy het haar bewys as 'n formidabele aktrise, beide op die verhoog en televisie. Vir Suid-Afrikaanse kykers is sy alombekend as Madel Terblanche, die matriarg van die Terblanche-gesin in die gewilde sepie-reeks, *Sewende Laan*. Snyman sê dat sy nooit 'n boek oor haarself beplan het nie. Die skryfery het spontaan begin terwyl sy tussen opnames op die stel van *Sewende Laan* sit en wag het. In haar boek: **Memoires**, vertel sy van haar grootwordjare, haar ouers, haar tweelingbroers, haar latere huwelik met Jaap Smit, hul drie kinders en kleinkinders. Wilna vertel ook van haar moeilike beginjare by Truk en latere jare in die toneel en televisiebedryf. Snyman se teks is eerlig en openhartig. Sy praat openlik oor haar stryd teen borskanker. Wat die teks verder

besonders maak, is die insluit van persoonlike briewe van haar ma en briewe wat as sy as kind aan haar grootouers geskryf het. Die teks word verder geïllustreer met wit en swart en kleur foto's.

Beslis die moeite werd om te lees.

EMW

WEIR, Stephen

History's worst decisions: an encyclopedia idiotica.- Zebra P., 2006.

This volume offers a revealing insight into the background and motivations of some of mankind's most idiotic decisions in history and the resulting chaotic and lamentable consequences.

Readers are taken on a journey from ancient times with Adam and Eve and ending off in the present with the Boxing Day tsunami of December 2004.

This journey through humanity's idiocy reveals not honest blunders but really dumb ones that came at a very high price in lives, and in some cases even causing the end of dynasties and countries.

The subject matter is offered in an accessible package and readers interested in famous historical incidents will enjoy browsing through this entertaining yet informative title.

EB

●●● **ADULT FICTION**
VOLWASSE VERHALENDE
LEKTUUR

CHALLIS, Sarah

Footprints in the sand.- Headline, 2006.

I do not always remember Sarah Challis's novels but I do remember her name, because she is one of those authors who can always be relied upon to provide an entertaining read. This new one is no exception. **Footprints in the sand** is a romantic novel of adventure set in West Africa. It tells the story of two English cousins, Emily and Clemmie, who travel to Mali to carry out the instructions set out in their eccentric great-aunt's will - Emily reluctantly but Clemmie enthusiastically. Once there, they are to travel by camel into the Sahara to scatter her ashes at a particular village. Their journey and what they learn along the way, both about their great-aunt and about themselves, makes wonderful reading. This is just as enjoyable and readable as the other Challis titles I have read, and should do well in the public libraries.

SCG

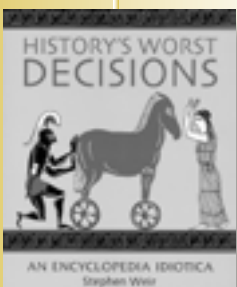
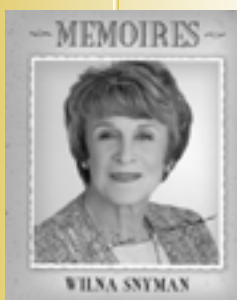
GIBBINS, David

Crusader gold.- Headline, 2006.

This is the author's second adventure novel featuring archaeologist Jack Howard on a new quest to trace a mysterious Crusader treasure taken from Constantinople during the plundering in 1204 by Crusaders en route to the Holy Land.

The fabled Jewish menorah, a huge, sacred golden candlestick was looted and taken to Rome with many other spoils after the sacking of the famous Jewish Temple in Jerusalem.

The general opinion was that this artefact was



conveyed to Constantinople, eventually to fall into the hands of the Crusaders during the 1204 sacking of Constantinople. There is a mystery surrounding its whereabouts and this is where Jack and his experts come into the picture.

But there are others who have questionable designs on the menorah too.

In this new adventure Jack Howard, (who previously featured in *Atlantis*) takes the reader on a fascinating journey around the globe on an intriguing quest to locate the Jewish menorah. Should it fall into the wrong hands, the consequences would be disastrous.

The reader follows Jack and his team through history, from ancient Rome to the final days of Nazi power. Clues reveal links to rebelling Varangian (Viking) guards of Constantinople, a forgotten ancient map of the Americas, links to ancient America, and a sinister Nazi plot.

Although the novel sometimes gets bogged down with too many technical details, the narrative is still able to sustain the reader in a very gripping adventure. As stated in the blurb, this is very much a cross between Indiana Jones and Dan Brown.

EB

HOLT, Anne

Punishment.- Time Warner, 2006.

The first title in a crime series set in Norway. A killer is abducting children and later returning their dead bodies to the grieving parents with the cruel but cryptic message: 'Now you've got what you deserved.' A further problem is that the actual cause of the children's deaths is a mystery. Detective Inspector Adam Stubo asks for help from academic Johanne Vik, who has had FBI training in profiling. Both are characters with personal problems of their own, and Johanne is also looking into an apparent miscarriage of justice many years before, at the request of a dying woman. The various threads come together in a gripping climax. The author has worked in journalism and law, and served as Norway's Minister of Justice in 1996-7. She is regarded as one of Scandinavia's leading crime writers and her books are bestsellers in Europe.

MJI

KENNEDY, Douglas

State of the union.- Hutchinson, 2005.

The story opens in the sixties. Hannah's father is a university professor who leads his students in demonstrations against the Vietnam War. Her mother, an abstract artist with depression problems, has little or no interest in developing a meaningful mother/daughter relationship. Hannah, who has never done anything unpredictable in her life, is a boring disappointment to her parents.

When Hannah falls in love with Dan, a GP as conventional as she is, she exchanges her plans for a fancy free gap year in France for the security of marriage. But motherhood and life in a small town do not measure up to expectations. Dan is absorbed with his work and specialist studies. Hannah is bored and lonely.

Dan is called to his dying father's bedside and that same weekend Hannah's father sends her a

houseguest, one of his former left wing students. In her vulnerable state Hannah is a sitting duck for Toby's charm and is easily seduced. Afterwards she is beside herself to learn that Toby is suspected of being involved in a bombing and is on the run from the FBI. She resolves to spend the rest of her life doing penance for her adultery. No matter that she and Dan do not have the perfect marriage, from now on she will make whatever sacrifice necessary to be the perfect wife and mother.

A couple of decades later her one act of indiscretion comes back to haunt her. Before she knows what is happening, her brief affair with Toby is splashed across the national newspapers. Hannah is accused of being a traitor and finds herself facing a possible court case for treason. Reviled by the community, suspended from her teaching post and abandoned by her husband it does not seem possible that Douglas Kennedy will find a way to write Hannah out of this mess.

One can not help getting emotionally involved in this story. We all make mistakes but poor Hannah wastes her life trying to atone for one error of judgement only to have her despicable lover reappear, hell bent on destroying her. The catastrophic events which unfold one after the other, are so unfair that one ends up reading almost faster than one's fingers can turn the pages in the hope that the improbable will happen and things will come right for Hannah.

PD

NUGENT, Andrew

The Four Courts murder.- Headline, 2006.

A Dublin High Court judge is found dead in his chambers. He seems to have been killed by a kick to the head. Inspector John Lennon and Sergeant Molly Power soon find the judge was not a popular man, and someone seen in the gallery of the court during the judge's last case is a likely suspect. However, there is much more to be uncovered, including a link to art thefts which brings Inspector Jim Quilligan into the investigation. With some engagingly eccentric characters, lively dialogue and good touches of humour, this debut police procedural is a thoroughly enjoyable read. Its author is an Irish Benedictine monk, who was once a lawyer and who has also served as a school principal and as a missionary.

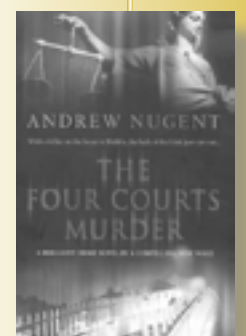
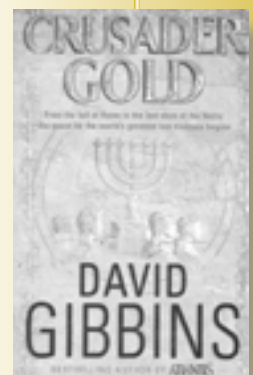
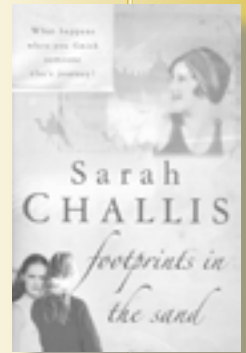
MJI

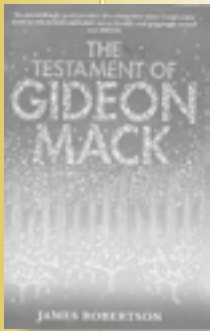
ROBERTSON, James

The testament of Gideon Mack.- H. Hamilton, 2006.

Already a respected author of short stories, poetry and two novels, the third novel of this award-winning Scottish author delivers an unusual account of the life of the eponymous, yet fictional, Gideon Mack.

Gideon Mack, the son of a Presbyterian minister, follows in the footsteps of his father and becomes a minister in the Church of Scotland, even though he is agnostic. His life seems rather dull and uneventful in the Scottish lowlands until the day he discovers a standing stone in the middle of a local wood where previously there had been none. This is the start of even stranger events to follow.





After a near-drowning and a subsequent three-day disappearance, Gideon Mack (by then thought to be dead), reappears and claims that he had met the Devil in an underground grotto. Needless to say this makes him an outcast in the community.

The story is set in a post-war Scotland verging on the coming social revolution of the 1960s, and is convincingly told. Though the culmination and ultimate revelation will leave many readers puzzled and perplexed, they will nevertheless be spellbound by this powerful and haunting story. Already this book has achieved cult status overseas and even has an Internet web site.

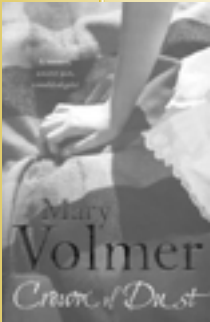
EB

VOLMER, Mary

Crown of dust.- Harper, 2006.

Set against the background of the California Gold Rush. In the small, ramshackle settlement of Motherlode, innkeeper Emmaline is queen. She acts as the miners' friend, confidante, mother, nurse and paid lover - and she keeps them in order and sees they attend Sunday services in the small chapel she's had built. (She's made the preacher promise to stay sober on Sundays.) A young lad called Alex arrives. 'He' is actually a woman in disguise, carrying a burden of terrible secrets from the past. Alex discovers a large gold nugget and is dubbed the Golden Boy. But news of the strike attracts both enemies and so-called respectable people to Motherlode, resulting in some dramatic and tragic developments. Despite the setting, this debut novel cannot be described as a western, but rather as historical fiction. It is quite skilfully written and the period details sound vivid and authentic.

MJI



●●● JUVENILE NON-FICTION JEUGVAKLEKTUUR

ROSS, Stewart

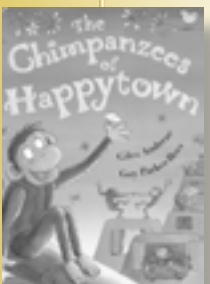
Ancient China.- Dorling Kindersley, 2006.

An exciting title in a junior non-fiction historical series called *Tales of the dead*. It combines a gripping graphic novel about a plot to kill the Chinese emperor against factual references to early Chinese history. The book covers various important aspects with regard to the ancient Chinese such as: a timeline of the different Chinese dynasties from ancient times until the 20th century; the building of the China Wall; dress; inventions; government; the arts and even religion.

The graphic novel is portrayed alongside the outer edges of the page. The book, vividly illustrated by Richard Bonson, one of Dorling Kindersley's acclaimed cross-section artists and Inklink, the Italy-based studio, delivers a series of striking colour images which add to the enjoyment of reading this book.

Young readers will certainly be enchanted by this fun introduction to the splendours of the ancient world.

EB



●●● JUVENILE FICTION JEUGLEKTUUR

ANDREAE, Giles and PARKER-REES, Guy
The chimpanzees of Happytown.- Orchard, 2006.

Drabsville, United States of America, is a gloomy town where all the houses look dull and grey, and where there are no parks and certainly a noticeable lack of trees.

Chutney, a travelling chimpanzee, returns from his travels and plants a seed that he picked up along the way. The seed germinates into a beautiful tree but when noticed by the mayor, he orders that the tree be chopped down. Chutney is sent to prison while the mayor journeys to his country retreat.

Meanwhile the children next door water Chutney's seed, which once again produces another beautiful tree. When Chutney is released, he encourages the inhabitants of the town to put some colour into their lives and change their environment, which they all willingly do.

Drabsville turns into a colourful and happy place that the illustrations vibrantly portray, justly earning the name of Happyville.

EB

PAVER, Michelle

Soul eater.- Orion, 2006.

This sequel to **Spirit walker** returns to the prehistoric world of 4000 BC to continue with the adventures of Torak whom we first met as a 12-year-old boy in **Wolf brother**, first title in the *Chronicles of ancient darkness* series.

In this story Torak begins his search for his pack-brother Wolf who has been captured by an unknown foe.

It is winter; so there is a definite trail to follow leading to the frozen wilderness of the Far North. His quest reunites him with friend Renn who shares in the dangers of his latest adventure.

Similar to the previous two titles in the series, one thrilling crisis follows another as Torak continues to explore the unusual gifts he has been born with and discover his destiny.

Once again, the wealth of wilderness lore adds to the story that is infused with a chilling sense of mysterious menace. Torak's bravery against insurmountable dangers makes him an engaging and memorable hero.

EB

Note: At the time of going to press, some of these titles were still on order.

EB	Erich Buchhaus
JdeB	Johanna de Beer
PD	Penny Dommissie (Goodwood Library)
SCG	Sabrina Gosling
MJI	Margaret Iskandar
EMW	Ethney Waters

2006