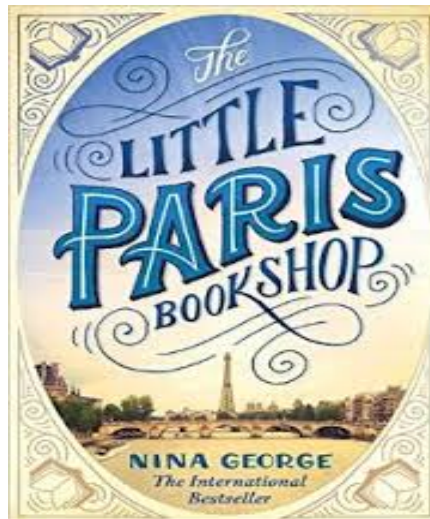




Words Worth Reading

Welcome to our Winter edition of the Tim's Bookshop newsletter.



Inside:

Reviews

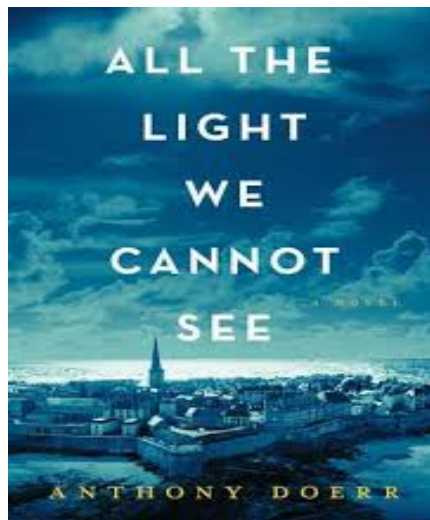
We are thrilled with the current crop of new release fiction and can't wait to share our thoughts with you.

Stella Prize

Congratulations to Emily Bitto, winner of the 2015 Stella Prize with her novel *The Strays*.

Kids

Story Time has begun at our Canterbury store on the first Thursday of each month at 10.30am.

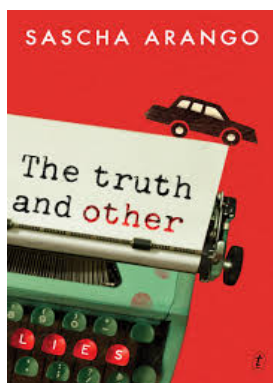


Tim's Bookshop Top 10 Books

"There is no such thing as too many books."

1. **The Little Paris Bookshop** by Nina George
2. **All the Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr
3. **The Strays** by Emily Bitto
4. **One Life** by Kate Grenville
5. **The Girl on the Train** by Paula Hawkins
6. **The Brain's Way of Healing** by Norman Doidge
7. **Mannix** by Brenda Niall
8. **A God in Ruins** by Kate Atkinson
9. **Mindfulness Colouring Book** by Emma Farrarons
10. **After the Crash** by Michel Bussi

The Truth and Other Lies by Sascha Arango



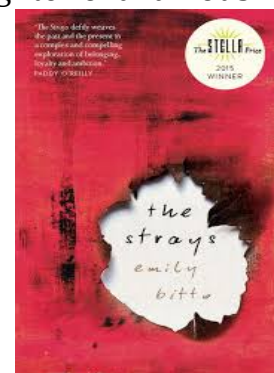
Henry Hayden is a bestselling author with all the fame, fortune and friends one could ever hope for. Except that actually, he is not an author at all and has not written one word of the novels that have brought him celebrity and wealth. He also has a mistress who has just informed him she is pregnant, and whilst having a mistress was perfectly satisfactory for a time Henry knows that a baby could jeopardise everything. Henry sets a plan into action that seems perfectly straightforward and yet goes terribly wrong, sending him careening down a strange and twisted path where the truth could be exposed at every turn.

This is a wicked, dark and enthralling book from a German crime writer with flair and criminal energy like no other. This is a book about murder and deception that is also humourous, clever and fun without straying too far into the ridiculous. Highly recommended.

The Strays by Emily Bitto

Set in Melbourne in the 1930's this is the story of a family struggling to be worthy of the name and a young girl who observes them from within. Lily befriends Eva, the middle daughter of a famous artist and soon becomes part of the household. She sees the Trentham's as exotic and exciting and so far removed from her own typically dull, suburban, working class family. She wishes she too could belong to Evan and Helena, even as she witnesses the lack of care and responsibility provided by these two. When other artists move into the Trentham home, taken in as 'strays' and provided with a place to create their art, the dynamics and relationships within the house begin to change.

Winner of the Stella Prize this year, Bitto's debut novel is engaging, descriptive and thought provoking, exploring a wide range of issues within a local context.



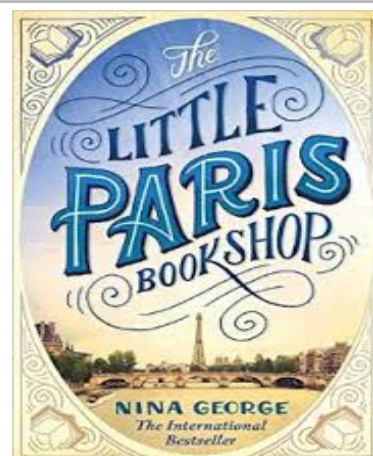
All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

Marie-Laure is only six when she loses her sight. Her father, a locksmith at the Museum of Natural History in Paris, has little money to spare but he can create marvels out of wood. He makes her a miniature of their neighbourhood so Marie-Laure will be able to feel her way around, first with her fingers and then, outside, with a picture in her mind. When War comes to Paris and they have to flee, her father constructs another model before he disappears, this time of the seaside town of Saint-Malo where she waits with her great-uncle, collecting and imagining. In Germany, Werner is an orphan boy with a talent for mechanics, specifically radios. His abilities gain him a place at a school for Hitler Youth, rather than down a mine. When the war comes his skills ensure he is at the heart of battle, until eventually he too arrives in Saint-Malo.

It is impossible to overstate the beauty of the writing in this book. Doerr can express so much, provide a portrait of a scene so well in so few words that he will captivate you. Far from being yet another book about war, this is a work of art, one deserving of every award that can be bestowed upon it. Haunting, lyrical, poignant and magical this is an absolute must read and the winner of this years Pulitzer Award for Fiction.

“She is too fond of books and it has turned her brain.”

Louisa May Alcott



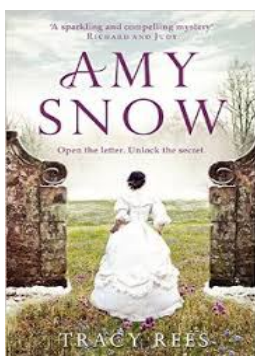
The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George

As a bookseller you are always hoping the next book you read will be that special one, the one that will move you. You wish for something heartwarming, with characters you can empathise with and possibly fall a little bit in love with. A novel that will transport you to a different place, if not time. A place of beauty where you can almost feel the warm air, smell the bread baking, taste the wine. The story will be a little sad, (for it is impossible to go through life without some sort of loss) but there will be humour, and a journey, and healing, and books, and of course, love. Oh, and cats. There should definitely be cats.

This is that book. It is the story of Jean Perdu, the ultimate bookseller. He has the ability to know exactly which book a person needs to read to soothe their soul. His passion is books, and he knows that the right book, at the right time, can be better than any medicine. And yet Jean cannot seem to heal himself. The love of his life left him over twenty years ago and his existence since has become hollow and small. When a new neighbour moves into the apartment across the way she stirs up memories and feelings that confound and upset him. Before long he is off down the river Seine in the barge that is also his bookshop, aware that nothing will ever be the same and hoping to find that which he has lost.

This book was destined to be a bestseller. It has a beautiful cover with the words 'Paris' and 'Bookshop' on it. But it is also more than that. It is a bestseller with heart, and soul, and should be prescribed for every book lover to be absorbed quickly the first time, and then read again slowly, with a glass of wine and a warm bath. Repeat as needed.

Amy Snow by Tracy Rees



Amy was just a tiny baby when she was found in the snow and close to death. Aurelia Vennaway, the young heiress who saves Amy, insists that the baby is taken in and cared for at Hatville Court, against her parents wishes and possibly against Amy's best interests. Amy and Aurelia find true friendship until the older girl's life is cut tragically short. Amy must now fend for herself and following a treasure hunt devised by her dearly departed friend she sets off into the great wide world. This is a novel reminiscent of Dickens and Austen and the twists and turns, love lost and found, danger encountered and avoided, will keep you entranced until the very last page.

After the Crash by Michel Bussi



In 1980, a plane crashes in French-Swiss Alps. There is one survivor, a baby girl, only 3 months old. Two families come forward to claim her as their own. One family is rich, the other poor. In a time before DNA testing, the court has to decide who the child should live with and eventually they do, but the wealthy family commission a private detective for 18 years to investigate who the child really belongs to. On the eve of the eighteenth year he discovers the truth. Or did he? And is whatever he discovered shocking enough to get him killed?

An intriguing French thriller with more than enough twists and turns to keep you guessing right until the very end.

One Summer in Venice by Nicki Pellegrino

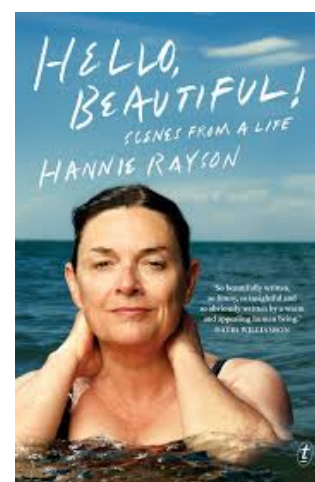
Imagine, if you will, you are the chef in a little Italian restaurant that belongs to your family in England, and then an opportunity arises where you can spend an entire summer in Venice. Living and eating as a local. This book takes you along the lanes and canals of Venice, stopping off at little cafés to eat beautiful simple food. This is not a mid-life crisis, Addolorata is too young. It is more like a happiness project, a stolen summer to discover the ten things that make her happy. She knows these should include her husband, her child and her business in London but perhaps she just needs a little time away....

This novel is a thoroughly enjoyable leisure read.



Hello Beautiful! Scenes From A Life by Hannie Rayson

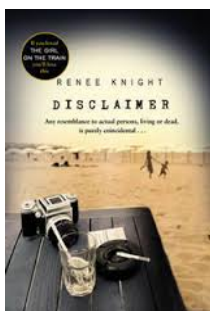
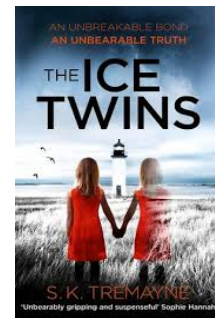
Hannie Rayson is a writer, always has been, always will be. She is also one of Australia's best known playwrights but this collection of stories about her life and the people in it are personal ones. There are stories of childhood in East Brighton (or *Brarton* as she says some prefer to pronounce it these days), of University, writer's block, working holidays overseas, motherhood, marriage and a mouse with terrible timing. There are funny anecdotes, heartwarming moments, and memories that will feel familiar. There is one chapter that will serve as a warning to booksellers everywhere, another that may change your mind about graffiti and on page 197.... well all we can say is it involves Paul Newman and ice-cream and it is laugh out loud hilarious. A wonderful, Melbournian book.



If you liked *Gone Girl* and *The Girl on the Train*, here are some more psychological thrillers we think you'll love....

The Ice Twins by S. K. Tremayne

A young family with identical twin girls, live a happy, normal life until one of the twins is killed. Both Sarah and Angus blame themselves for their daughter's death, but for different reasons. As they struggle to put their lives back together they move to a remote island in Scotland, hoping a fresh start will improve their relationship and help Kirstie, their remaining daughter, move on. As winter closes in Sarah realises that it is not just grief that is affecting Kirstie and they all find themselves tormented by the past. This dark thriller will wrap around you like the fog on the isles.

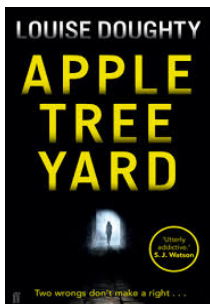


Disclaimer by Renee Knight

Catherine begins reading a book she has found on her bedside table but as she gets further into the story she realises the book is about her and could expose a secret that would destroy her entire life. Where did the book come from and how did it get there? Why would anyone want to do this to her? Now her husband and her son have both been given copies of it. The story will tear her family apart but the author of the book is not content with that, he won't stop until her career and social standing are ruined too. Her only hope is to confront the truth, but of course, the truth is not always what it seems.

The Farm by Tom Rob Smith

When Daniel receives a phone call from his father he hears the last thing he ever expected. As far as he knew, his parents had gone to live in happy retirement on a farm in Sweden. Now his father says his mother has had a breakdown and has been committed. Then he gets another call, this time from his mother who claims she is not mad, she needs the police and she is coming to England. Torn between his parents, unsure who to believe, this exciting thriller takes Daniel (and you, the reader) into a world of deceit, conspiracy and crime.



Apple Tree Yard by Louise Doughty

This novel came out two years ago and has been a favourite of book clubs ever since. If you missed it however, it is a dark, intriguing thriller that begins in a courtroom. Yvonne is on trial but it will be some time before the reader finds out why. Instead you are taken back, along the road that led Yvonne to this point and down the London lane that is Apple Tree Yard. It is more of a mystery than a thriller but still full of revenge, survival and secrets.

Other titles you shouldn't miss – *The Silent Wife* by A.S.A Harrison – A toxic marriage, two unreliable narrators heading for disaster.

Hausfrau by Jill Alexander Essbaum – A sexually charged story of a woman trapped by her marriage, so desperate to escape that the path she chooses can only end in tragedy.

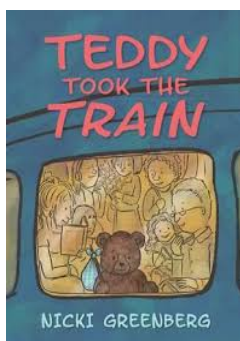
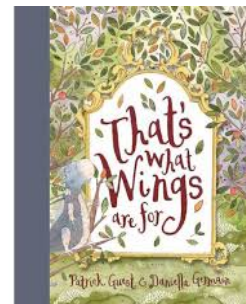
How to be a Good Wife by Emma Chapman – Is anything Marta remembers true?

Picture Books for Kids...

That's What Wings are For by Patrick Guest

This is a kind hearted tale about Bluey the Dragon whose soft wings are better for giving hugs than they are for flying. He is teased by his peers and is sad until he meets others who can teach him inner strength. It is a lovely story with a lot of soul.

(The dedication in this book reads "This book is dedicated to every boy and girl with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), their families, and all those working for a cure. Like Bluey the Dragon, these boys and girls may have weak muscles but they are strong and amazing in so many other ways. You inspire us, you hold us, you teach us how to live EVERY PRECIOUS DAY.") Meet Patrick at Story Time on July 2nd at 10.30am at our Maling Rd store.

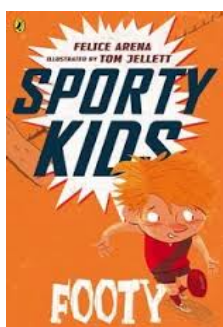


Teddy Took the Train by Nicki Greenberg

When Dot forgets her teddy on the train, she decides he must have been planning an amazing adventure for a while. He's going to the teddy bear's picnic (no people friends allowed!) and will have to journey back across Melbourne to get to her. This fabulous book from a local author and illustrator is one of our new favourite picture books. Beautiful drawings, rhyming text and a great adventure with a happy ending all combine to make a truly enjoyable story for children aged three and up. Perfect for fans of Dogger by Shirley Hughes.

The Most Wonderful Thing in the World by Vivian French and Angela Barrett

Could this be the one of the most beautiful picture books in the world? We think it must be up there. When the King and Queen of a small but beautiful kingdom decide their daughter must marry they proclaim that her hand will go to whichever suitor can bring them the most wonderful thing in the world. One after the other, men bring things that are sure to impress, but the princess is nowhere to be found. She has spent the day wandering the city with a young man who has brought her parents nothing. The young couple are in love, but will it be enough for the King and Queen? The illustrations in this book are truly wonderful and together with a lovely fairy tale this is a book to treasure. For ages 5+.

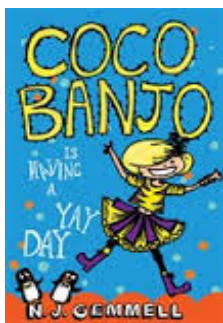
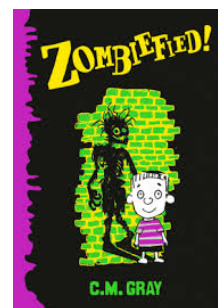


Sporty Kids by Felice Arena and Tom Jellett

This brand new series is all about how much fun sport can be! Each *Sporty Kids* book has a special section with tips, jokes and fun facts, great for those aged 6 and up. In *Footy* Jack loves playing with his team, the Dragons. The only thing is, his handball skills aren't great and so when his coach tells him that practice makes perfect he decides to handball everything he can get his hands on, at school and at home! In *Swimming* Emma finds it hard to dive into the pool. Once she is in the water she can glide like a crocodile, duck down to the bottom like a dolphin and swim like a shark, but how will she ever learn to stop doing belly-wackers?

Zombiefied! By C.M Gray

Ben and Sophie are obsessed with Zombies. They play Zombie games, they watch Zombie movies and when they should be doing homework, they read Zombie comics. So when strange things start to happen in real life, surely it's just their obsession (and imagination) getting out of hand? But what's the deal with the secret passage Ben discovers in the back of a cupboard at school? Things start to get a bit creepy! The perfect book for zombie fighters aged 8 and up. (Or brave 7 year olds!)



Coco Banjo is Having a Yay Day by N.J Gemmell

Coco Banjo loves her life. She does whatever she wants, whenever she wants, just because she can and she has dolphins and penguins for friends. Coco decides not to go to school one day and plans all sorts of adventures with her animal friends, until her best person friend calls for help. Narianna is being bullied and Coco can't let that happen. So school it is, but will she be in trouble with grumpy headmistress Miss Trample? A funny, Australian novel with cartoon-like illustrations for ages 7+.

Watch This Space #1 Out to Launch by Colin Thompson

The Contrast family are randomly selected from millions of applicants to take part in a new reality TV show. The creator of the show, Radius Limpfast has already made billions of dollars from his many, varied and sometimes not quite moral programs but now he is striving for the ultimate, he is going to send an average, everyday family (and their dog) to the moon. It's never been done before, the whole world will be watching, it's brilliant! What could possibly go wrong? This is a very funny, clever and in fact, downright wacky book for 10+.



The Nethergrim #1 by Matthew Jobin

Nobody knows what the Nethergrim looks like and the villagers of Moorvale believed him to be long gone, defeated in battle by the wizard Vitric and knight Tristan. But now it seems he and his evil minions are back. When Edmund's brother is one of the children who have gone missing, taken by the Nethergrim, he and his friends must gather all their courage and go to face an ancient foe. The first book in a great new fantasy series. Perfect for fans of The Ranger's Apprentice series and Narnia. Ages 9+.

Carousel by Brendan Ritchie

Carousel is set in a Target store within a giant shopping mall. An Arts student, two famous indie rockers and a checkout guy find themselves trapped inside the mall. At first having the place to themselves isn't so bad, but as the days turn into weeks, the wait to be rescued begins to take its toll. This novel is a great character study of how people deal with isolation and containment. A slow burning YA thriller.



I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson

Twins, Jude and Noah, used to be close but something happened between the ages of 13 and 16 to break their sibling bond and ensure they barely speak to each other now. Written in two parts, from Noah's perspective as a 13 year old, and from Jude's as a 16 year old, the novel explores love, art and tragedy. Nelson writes with heartbreaking poetry and offbeat humour. A creative and original YA book for ages 14+.



One True Thing by Nicole Hayes



At 16, Frankie just wants to concentrate on her music. She doesn't want to think about the fact that her mum is up for election as the Premier of Victoria, and she definitely wants to ignore the fact that her life and her family, are under the microscope. To escape, Frankie throws herself into creating music with her band and her new romance with budding journalist, Jake. Unfortunately, when Jake might be involved in the scandal that threatens to hurt her family she realises that staying out of politics altogether is not going to be an option for her.

Brimming with fabulous characters, this sometimes funny, sometimes heartbreaking novel set in Melbourne is wonderful. No interest in politics is necessary to enjoy it! If you like Melina Marchetta and Rainbow Rowell, try this one. For ages 13+

Tim's Bookshop's Top 10 For Kids

1. **Tom Gates #8 Yes, No, Maybe** by L. Pichon
2. **Kaboom Kid #1 The Big Switch** by David Warner
3. **Pig the Fibber** by Aaron Blabey
4. **Why I Love Footy** by Michael Wagner
5. **Wonder** by R.J Palacio
6. **Paper Planes** by Steve Worland
7. **The 52 Storey Treehouse** by Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton
8. **The Incredible Adventures of Cinnamon Girl** by Melissa Keil
9. **Teddy Took the Train** by Nicki Greenberg
10. **Weirdo #4 Super Weird** by Anh Do

Story Time at Tim's Bookshop

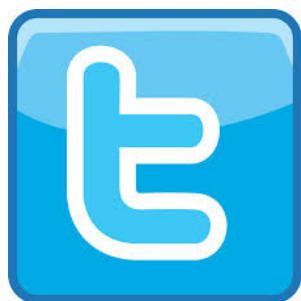


On May 7th we held our very first Story Time and thank you to everyone who attended for making it such a fun morning, with many books read and even some Mother's Day card making as well.

Our next session on Thursday 4th June was even bigger and better. We celebrated the Queen's Birthday in style with some beautiful cardboard crowns decorated until they sparkled.

In July, on Thursday 2nd at 10.30am, we will have children's author Patrick Guest reading his new picture book *That's What Wings Are For* and we will have a dragon theme. It will be school holiday fun for all, and we look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to contribute to our monthly newsletter with your own review of a great book you have read recently, please do not hesitate to send it to us at canterbury@timsbookshop.com. It could be a new release or just an old favourite you think everyone should read at least once.



Liked our newsletter? Now "Like" us on Facebook for up to date reviews, upcoming events and much, much more!



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