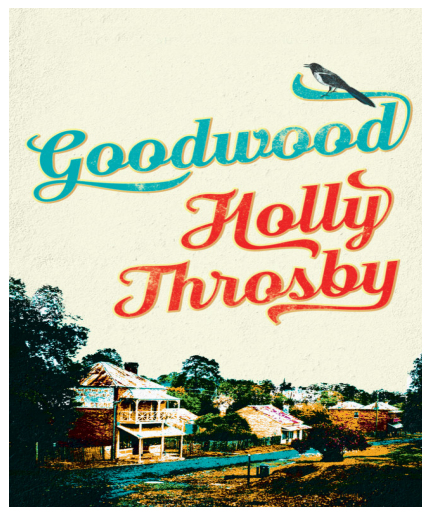




## Words Worth Reading

Welcome to our wonderfully warm Spring newsletter.



## Inside:

### Reviews

How do you choose what to read next? We'll help you!

### Love Your Bookshop

National Bookshop Day on August 13<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. Tim whipped up fairy floss, the face painting was a hit, there were craft activities, balloon art and much, much more. Thank you to all our wonderful customers for helping us celebrate.

### Kids

Story Time at our Canterbury store takes place on the first Thursday of each month at 10.30am. Perfect for children aged 0 - 5 years.

“Like sunflowers are heliotropic, they naturally turn towards the sun. We naturally turn towards the bookshop”

— Jo Walton

## Tim's Bookshop Top 10 Books

1. Truly Madly Guilty by Liane Moriarty
2. The Course of Love by Alain de Botton
3. The Last Painting of Sara de Vos by Dominic Smith
4. All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
5. The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George
6. Big Little Lies by Liane Moriarty
7. Bomber: The Whole Story by Mark Thompson
8. Halliday Wine Companion 2017 by James Halliday
9. Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf
10. The Shepherd's Life by James Rebanks



## Black Teeth by Zane Lovitt

Since Jason's mum died he has been alone in the world. Of course, he is a grown up and can survive perfectly well on his own, but he has finally just tracked down his father and has decided it is time to meet him. Will Jason's dad want to know about this long lost son, or is the past better left behind?

Rudy also wants to meet Jason's dad, but for an entirely different reason. Rudy wants revenge. Can Jason stop him? Does he really want to? This is a very modern Australian crime complete with tech speak, a lot of "likes" and references to a Melbourne we can all recognize, including the Doncaster Shoppingtown car park and food court. It is funny and intriguing and will leave you wanting more from this young local author.



## The Mandibles by Lionel Shriver

The Mandible family fortune disappeared in the crash of 2029. As nearly every member of the family was relying on that money to secure their future, they all, rather suddenly, have to re-evaluate just what that future might look like now. Unfortunately, they don't have much time. America's economy is in crisis and things are going from bad to worse for every member of society, not just for the wealthy. As the family are forced to come together they learn hard truths about themselves, each other, and the world they have taken for

granted for so long.

This is a confronting and alarming story about a future that could very well happen, brilliantly done by a formidable and exceptional author. Warning: You will want to rush out and stock up on necessities after reading this book, especially toilet paper!

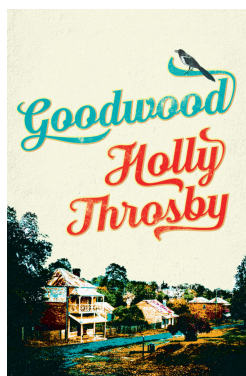


## The Girl in Green by Derek B. Miller

In Iraq in 1991 the Gulf War has technically come to an end. U.K journalist, Thomas Benton, and U.S soldier, Arwood Hobbes, meet for the first time at a checkpoint in the middle of no where. When the two men fail to save a young local girl their lives are changed forever, and it is a girl just like the one who died that day who brings them together again 22 years later.

On the outside, this book looks like a wartime thriller, and in a way it is exactly that. There are soldiers and bombs and terrorists and bodies. But it is also much, much more. It is an incredibly well researched novel about a war that is still continuing today. It is about the people who struggle to survive each day and a war torn land that has seen more bloodshed than we can ever imagine. It is about the refugee camps, the people who live there and the people who choose to go there and work, despite the danger. It is about the media who choose which stories are newsworthy and which aren't, and it is about the men and boys who fight there.

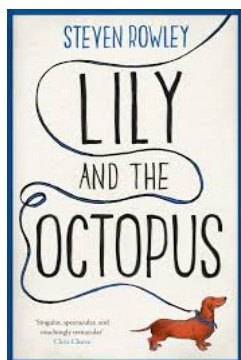
It is a heart crushing, important story, written in a way that we, from all the way over here on our relatively safe island, can understand and be moved by.



## Goodwood by Holly Throsby

Jean is seventeen. It is 1992. The town is a small one in New South Wales. Nothing much happens in Goodwood. Everyone knows everyone else, and mostly, everyone gets along well enough. That is, until two of the townsfolk go missing within a week of each other. Then a pall of grief and suspicion falls over those who have been left behind. As Jean recounts her version of events, the reader is introduced to a wide and varied cast of characters, some weird, some wonderful and some wicked. As Goodwood loses its normality, the intrigue grows and the web of lies begins to unravel.

This debut novel is a little bit *Jasper Jones* (but with less cricket and more fishing) and a little bit *The Dressmaker* (but with less fashion and more mystery). It is a thoroughly enjoyable coming of age story to be devoured on a warm spring afternoon to the sound of lawn mowers and magpie song.

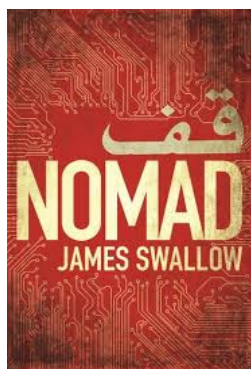


## Lily and the Octopus by Stephen Rowley

Ted Flask is a single 40-something who has lived with his best friend Lily for the past twelve years. They play board games together, watch tv, stay up late and have deep and meaningful conversations. Basically, they do everything together and yes, Lily just happens to be a dog. It's during one of their nights in that Ted notices The Octopus attached to Lilly's head.

This unique and charming novel follows their journey as they go to battle with The Octopus. Lily the daschund is adorable and Ted is frustrating but irresistible. This is more than just a story about a man and his dog. Its magical realism style takes the reader on an exploration of love and trust, grief and letting go. And it looks at that special bond between dogs and their humans. Quirky and sweet, wise and inspiring. "Lily and the Octopus" is at times laugh-out-loud hilarious, while also ugly-cry sad. A must for dog lovers, but also for anybody who has loved and lost.

## Nomad (Rubicon #1) by James Swallow

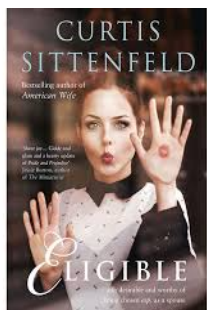


This explosive and fast paced thriller grips you from the start and does not let go! Meet Marc Dane, an MI6 field agent usually behind a computer and one step back from the action rather than on the frontline. This changes suddenly when he becomes the sole survivor of a brutal and deadly attack on his team. Marc is forced into action when he is accused of betraying his country. The clock is ticking as he tries to find who the real traitor within the organization is. It's during this hunt, while evading authorities that his mission becomes even bigger.

The fugitive agent discovers information about a terrorist attack about to be actioned that is bigger and more deadly than the world has ever seen.

This thrilling novel goes from central Barcelona, to Northern France, Rome, the middle of the desert and finally the USA.

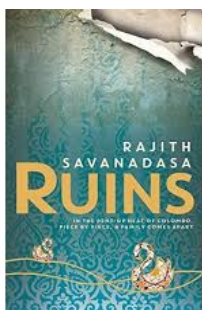
It is full of non-stop action and the character of Marc Dane is relatable. "Nomad" is a topical and enthralling beginning to the new thriller series "Rubicon".



## Eligible by Curtis Sittenfeld

*Eligible* is a modern retelling of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. It is the fourth book in "The Austen Project" which sees current authors remake Austen's classics in a contemporary setting. *Eligible* sees the Bennet sisters relocated from 19<sup>th</sup> Century England to modern day Cincinnati. Jane and Lizzie have moved from New York back to their dilapidated family home to help look after Mr Bennet, who is recovering from surgery. Who should happen to move into

the area at the same time? None other than doctor/reality TV star Chip Bingley and his obnoxious friend Darcy of course! Add in the three completely useless younger Bennet sisters and their meddling mother, and you have a funny, smart and interesting take on a book you thought you knew so well.



## Ruins by Rajith Savanadasa

This moving family drama is set in the final days of the civil war in Sri Lanka. It is told from the point of view of five family members.

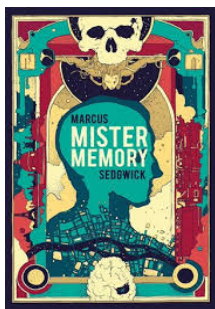
Latha, the servant who has been with the family since the children were little, just wants a home. Anoushka, the awkward teenage girl, not quite sure where she fits in the world. The parents, Mano, a newspaper editor who hopes to win the love of his wife back, and Lakshimi, the wife and

mother struggling with anxiety and the search for a missing boy. The final voice is that of the older son Niranjan, who wishes desperately to make a better life for himself.

The individual voices are believable and relatable. Their stories are complex but not without humour and the different points of view make the story more emotional and interesting.

"Ruins" is a stunning debut novel that not only tells the rich and colourful story of a family going through turbulent times, but also evokes the sights and smells of Sri Lanka, with the story of the end of the civil war playing in the background.

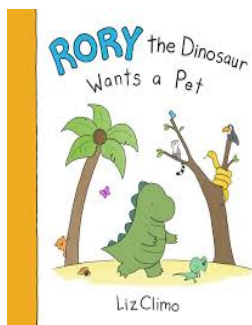
## Mister Memory by Marcus Sedgwick



Marcel remembers everything. He has not been able to forget a single thing since his mind began processing thought. This has made him something of an outcast. Unable to see the world in the same way as everyone else, he struggles with day-to-day life. When he meets Ondine and they marry soon after, it is the happiest he has ever been. So why does he shoot her and will he ever stop reliving that horrible day over and over again?

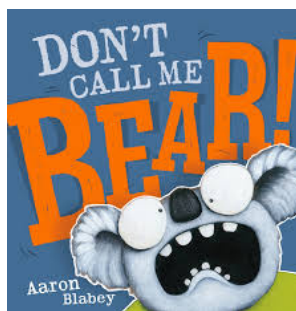
Morel is the doctor in charge of Marcel's care when he is committed to an asylum. He thinks Marcel's remarkable ability to remember could be the doctor's own chance at immortality in the world of medicine. Petit is the police officer originally assigned to the murder case, but even when the case is taken out of his hands he can't stop feeling that nothing about Marcel is as it seems. Between them they discover something much bigger than a domestic dispute and it could put all of their lives in danger. This is a fantastic work of historical fiction. Wonderfully written, gritty and moving, it is a book to sink into and explore.

## Some Great Books for Boys and Girls...



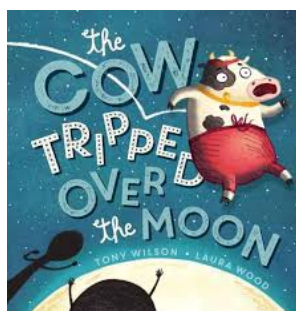
### Rory the Dinosaur Wants a Pet by Liz Climo

Rory spends a day at the beach with his friends Hank and Vera. Hank has a pet crab and they have so much fun playing with this new pet that Rory finds himself wishing he had one too. On the way home he looks everywhere for something he can call his own. Eventually, something shows up that fits the bill as Rory's new pet perfectly. A sweet and simple picture book for ages 2+.



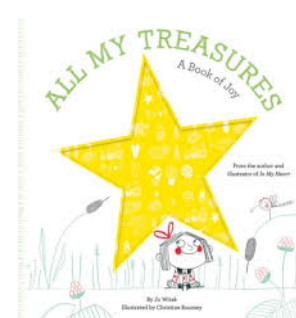
### Don't Call Me Bear by Aaron Blabey

Warren is a Koala. He is not a bear. It really bothers him that everyone keeps calling him a bear so he wants to make it clear once and for all that Koalas are Koalas and bears are bears. He can't believe that he has to spell it out for us but he does so in typically hilarious style. Poor Warren. He's such an angry little bear... sorry, Koala. Fun for the whole family!



### The Cow Tripped Over the Moon by Tony Wilson & Laura Wood

We all know the nursery rhyme, Hey Diddle Diddle, but this wonderful picture book puts a whole new spin on a classic story. Apparently the cow didn't jump over the moon on her first try. In fact, it actually took eight tries, all of which are immortalised in this clever, rhyming picture book. With the help of friends it seems you really can do anything!



### All My Treasures - A Book of Joy by Jo Witek

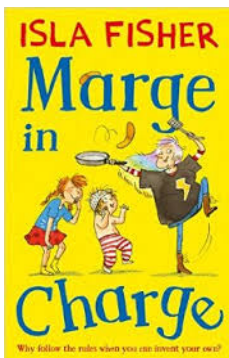
This stunning new hardback picture book will delight children and parents alike. One little girl is given a box to keep treasures in by her grandma and now she has to decide what she will put in it. As she explores her world, she comes up with some truly special things, things that your little one might recognise as something they treasure too. With flaps to lift and colourful illustrations this one is sure to become a treasure itself.



### A Child of Books by Oliver Jeffers and Sam Winston

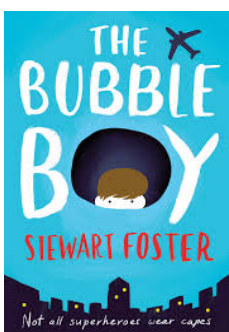
This hardback picture book is a stunning tribute to the power of stories and imagination. We love any book that celebrates books but Jeffers and Winston have created something truly special. With a simple storyline they share their love of classic literature and the magic books bring to children's lives. A wonderful and memorable addition to any bookshelf.

## Some more great books for boys and girls...



### Marge in Charge by Isla Fisher

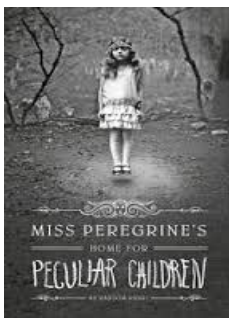
Jemima is Jake's big sister. Jake can be quite annoying at times but she loves him anyway, even when he refuses to wash his hair or eat his broccoli. Not even their mum can get him to do either of these things when he is in a mood but their new babysitter can. Marge is different. She is fun and crazy and does things no other babysitter would EVER do, and that's exactly why Jemima and Jake love her so much. Even when they have broken every rule laid down by their parents, when Marge is in charge it just somehow always works out in the end. With three stories in one book this is perfect junior fiction for kids 7+.



### The Bubble Boy by Stewart Foster

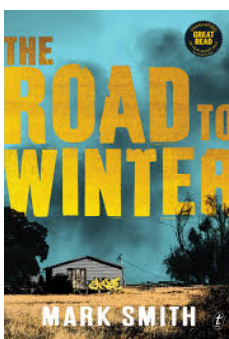
Eleven year old Joe is sick. He can't leave a specially designed hospital room. If he does, he'll catch any bug he comes across and his immune system won't be able to fight it. The doctors can't fix him but there is always hope of a cure. One day. In the meantime all Joe can do is watch tv, play on his laptop and wait. He messages his friend Henry, who has a similar condition but lives in an American hospital. He looks forward to his visits from his sister and he has his favourite nurse, Greg, but it feels as though nothing can stop one day from being the same as the next, and the next and the next. Until a new nurse arrives and suddenly life is so much more interesting. For ages 11+

### Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs



For a long time, when Jacob's Grandpa told him stories of very peculiar children, Jacob believed every word. Until he grew up that is, then he knew these tales couldn't possibly be true. There is no such thing as an invisible boy, or a girl who levitates, or a child who eats with the mouth at the back of her head. And yet, when Grandpa is killed by a monster in the woods, Jacob realises he has to dig deeper into the past and find out exactly what is true and what is made up, before the monsters come for him too.

This is a fantastic and riveting read for teenagers and grown ups alike, and a must read BEFORE you see the movie. And then you'll need books two and three as well because we don't want you losing sleep over what happens next!



### The Road to Winter by Mark Smith

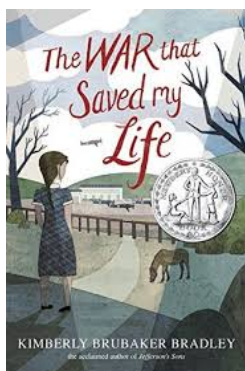
For 2 years, Finn has been on his own, with just his dog Rowdy for company. That's life after a virus led to his hometown being wiped out. His one uncomplicated escape is to surf. Then one day, he meets a girl on the beach. She's injured and on the run from a violent gang in the north. She won't tell him why, but she needs Finn's help. It's hard to tell whether this novel is so tense because of the thrilling action and danger, or because this is an apocalypse that seems so possible and close to home. Either way you won't be able to put it down. Great for fans of *Tomorrow*, *When the War Began* and *Bear Grylls*. 14+



### The Genius Factor #1 How to Capture an Invisible Cat by Paul Tobin

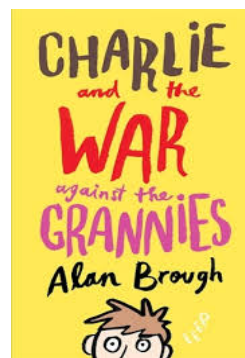
Nate is a genius. He is pretty much the only person smart enough to save the world from the Red Death Tea Society but every Friday 13th he gives himself the day off and does three incredibly dumb things. This time he has turned his cat into a giant invisible cat who could very possibly destroy the whole town, unless he, his talking dog and his new friend Delphine can stop it. This is a smart, hilarious story full of adventure and science and crazy car chases and a really, really big cat and peanut butter and well... you'll just have to read it to find out what else! Ages 9+.

### The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley



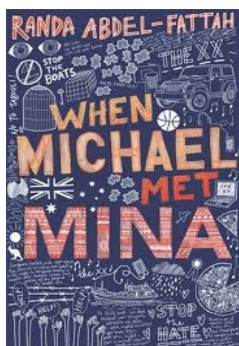
Ada and Jamie live in a poor part of London with their mother when Britain declares war on Germany in 1939. Ada has a clubfoot and has never been allowed out of their house before but when her brother is about to be evacuated to the countryside she can't let him go alone. The two malnourished and terrified children end up being taken in by Susan, a woman who has recently lost someone very dear to her and who wishes for nothing more than to be left alone with her sorrow. As time passes the unlikely trio begin to heal and to trust again. This is a wonderful, well-written, moving tale in the tradition of Goodnight Mister Tom. For ages 10+.

### Charlie and the War Against the Grannies by Alan Brough



Charlie is a digital orphan. When his parents got iphones they stopped talking to him, and each other. Now he has to take care of himself, which he is really quite good at, except when he tries to get himself a paper round and it turns out that some evil grannies already have the job and don't want to give it up. He knows he can't ask his parents for help, but his best friend Hils (do not call her Hilary whatever you do, you'll live to regret it) has extensive tactical military training (she reads many books and only speaks 'army') and is more than ready to declare war on the Stinkly Wrinkllys. Can the Angry Aged be defeated or will these Fighting Fossils continue with their strangle hold on the coveted paper delivery service? This hilarious new book is perfect for fans of David Walliams, or anyone over the age of 8.

### WHEN MICHAEL MET MINA BY RANDA ABDEL-FATTAH

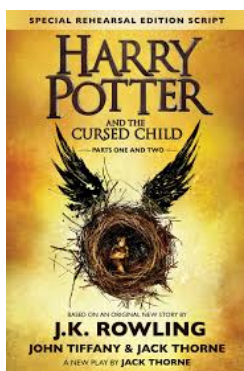


Michael is a teenage boy, popular, bright and comfortable in his own skin. Mina is a teenage girl who has just transferred to Michael's school on a scholarship. She is bright, articulate and determined. From the moment Michael sees her he is intrigued and as the two get to know each other he knows he is falling for her. There are, however, some hurdles to overcome. Mina is Muslim and from a refugee family. Michael's parents head a group called Aussie Values and don't believe that families such as Mina's belong in Australia. Michael and Mina do not have an easy path ahead of them, but when you believe something is worth fighting for, then you have to give it everything you've got.

Highly recommended for ages 13 to 113.

## Tim's Bookshop's Top 10 for Kids!

1. **Harry Potter and the Cursed Child** by J.K Rowling, John Tiffany & Jack Thorne
2. **The 78-Storey Treehouse** by Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton
3. **World's Worst Children** by David Walliams
4. **Matilda** by Roald Dahl
5. **Charlie and the War Against the Grannies** by Alan Brough
6. **Mr Huff** by Anna Walker
7. **The Cow Tripped Over the Moon** by Tony Wilson
8. **400 Minutes of Danger** by Jack Heath
9. **Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children** by Ransom Riggs
10. **Don't Call me Bear** by Aaron Blabey



### **Harry Potter and the Cursed Child** by J.K Rowling, John Tiffany and Jack Thorne

For those of us who aren't lucky enough to be heading off to see the play of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* on the stage in London any time soon, then this book really is the next best thing. While some reviews have been scathing and some readers disappointed, it may just depend on exactly what it is you are expecting when you pick the book up for the first time. We are here to help!

First of all, it is a script and therefore it reads like a script. However, it is surprising how quickly you get used to reading this way, even if the last play you read was Shakespeare in high school (and even then you just watched Baz Luhrman's *Romeo and Juliet* instead). And don't worry if the kids have never read a script before but really, really want to read the new Harry Potter, they'll figure it out. Kids are good at that.

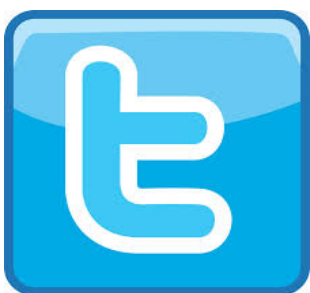
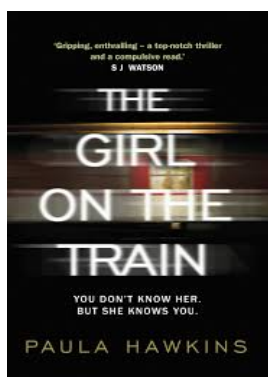
Secondly, Harry Potter is all grown up now, and so are Ron and Hermione and Draco and Ginny. The story is mostly about Harry's son Albus and Draco's son, Scorpius. Albus doesn't much like his father and struggles to emerge from his famous dad's very long shadow. His friendship with Scorpius is one of the best things about the new book. In fact, Scorpius' character provides the wit and wisdom the play needs at times to ease the tension. So although Harry and his friends certainly have their own roles in the story, don't expect the same focus on your favourite wizard as you have had in the novels.

Finally, read the book the way it is supposed to be read, as a play. Read all the stage notes, follow the scene directions, picture the action as though it is taking place on a stage in front of you and you will love this book. We did.



## MOVIE TICKET GIVEAWAY

THANKS TO PALACE CINEMAS WE HAVE DOUBLE PASSES TO GIVE AWAY TO THE UPCOMING FILM *THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN*. JUST SHOP IN EITHER OUR KEW OR CANTERBURY STORES BETWEEN 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AND THE 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER AND FILL IN AN ENTRY FORM FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!



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

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