

CHRISTMAS BOOK LIST

Here are some ideas of books you might like to read yourself or buy for others. There are some fiction books; some autobiographies/biographies and some books related to hobbies and interests.

There are also some ideas of children's books, the ages are just a guide. Enjoy!

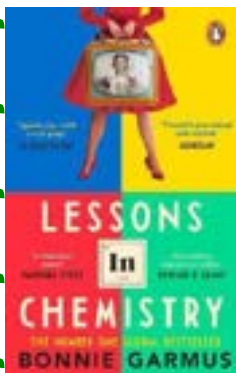
Mrs Keohane and Mrs Cooper-Evans

Fiction



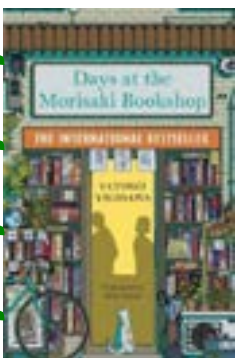
Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng

A dystopian novel set in America in the future about a boy trying to find his mother. America has descended into a country of censorship and racism where anything or anyone of Asian origin is seen as being 'anti-American'. Children are being removed from their parents for no reason other than their parents 'look oriental'.



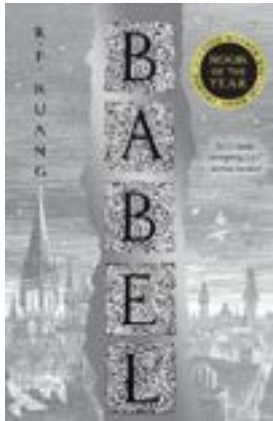
Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

Set in the 1960s featuring an unconventional female scientist. This book is very funny and also very moving. It's about female empowerment and a main character determined to live by her own rules in a man's world.



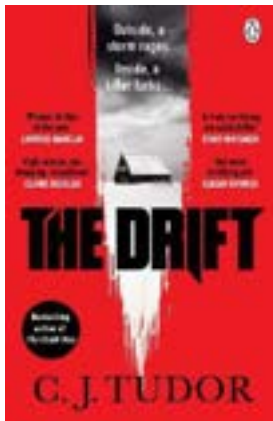
Days at the Morisaki Bookshop by Satoshi Yagisawa

Set in Tokyo, a broken-hearted young woman finds refuge in the world of her uncle's second-hand bookshop. A heartwarming tale about the healing power of reading.



Babel by R F Kuang

This a Gothic fantasy novel set in a dystopian 19th century Oxford. It is about the power of language and the violence of colonialism.



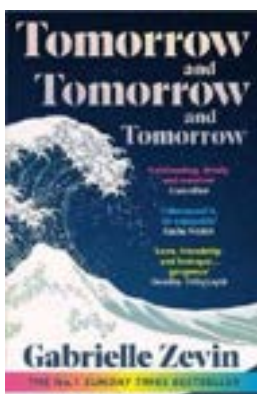
The Drift by C J Tudor

Following a deadly storm, this story follows three groups of stranded individuals surrounded by secrets and the occasional dead body. A spine chilling winter thriller with a hint of horror.



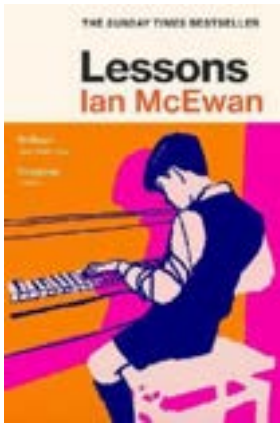
Really good, actually by Monica Heisey

A funny but poignant story about a young divorcee stepping back into the world without her husband. Maggie assures everyone she is “fine - really good, actually” even though she is alone, can’t pay her rent and is struggling with her obscure PhD. But she throws herself into ‘getting back out there’ with hilarious consequences.



Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

A heartwarming tale of human connection, creativity and collaboration as two children who meet in a hospital go on to pursue their dreams and identities through the production of video games.



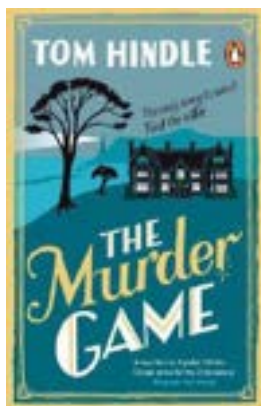
Lessons by Ian McEwan

A drama covering one man's lifetime with the background of global events in history such as the Chernobyl disaster, the Suez crisis and the fall of the Berlin Wall right up to the Covid pandemic and increased awareness of climate change. The reader glimpses chronological snapshots of the man's life over nearly a century and follows his family, career and friendships.



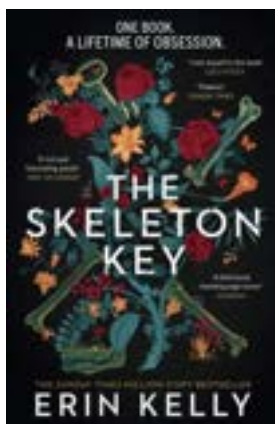
Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver

This is a reworking of the Dickens's classic novel, David Copperfield, but set in a trailer park in 'hillbilly' midwestern America. It is about a boy born to a teenaged single mother who experiences foster care, child labour and drug addiction.



The Murder Game by Tom Hindle

One house. Nine guests. Endless motives for murder...
A 1920s-themed murder mystery evening in a country house gets uncomfortably realistic in this whodunnit thriller.



The Skeleton Key by Erin Kelly

An ingenious thriller about a decades-old literary treasure hunt and the sinister passions and obsessions that are reignited when a cult mystery picture book is reissued.

Biographies and Autobiographies



My name is Barbara by Barbara Streisand

From the nightclubs of New York to fame on Broadway and in Hollywood, Barbra Streisand's memoir recounts the remarkable life and career of a showbusiness icon.



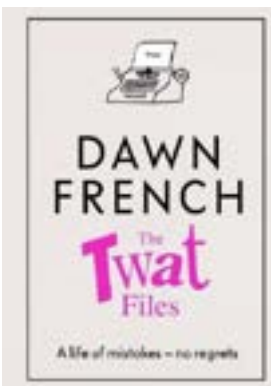
Rememberings by Sinéad O'Connor

Outspoken, provocative and enormously talented, singer Sinéad O'Connor lived her life very much on her own terms and, in this forthright and considered memoir, she reveals all about stardom, motherhood and calling out hypocrisy.



Broadly Speaking by Stuart Broad

From his jaw-dropping 8-15 spell against Australia to his retirement following the 2023 Ashes, the star England cricketer charts his incredible career with honesty and warmth in his memoir.



The Twat Files by Dawn French

Dawn French's hilarious memoir looks back with affection on six decades of cringeworthy moments.



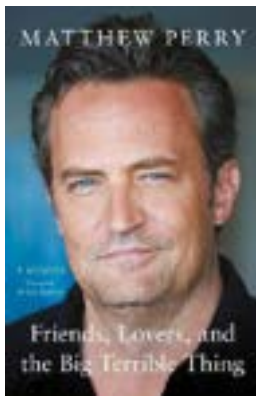
My Account by Coleen Rooney

In this revealing and honest memoir, Coleen Rooney sheds light on the realities and pressures of her life in the limelight, as well as on the very public drama of friendship and betrayal she lived through from 2019 to 2022.



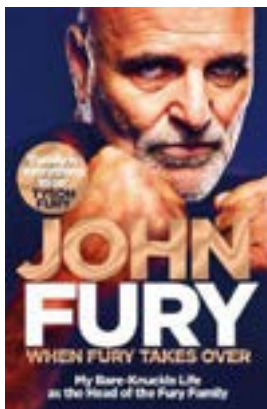
Karma by Boy George

As candid, outrageous and wickedly funny as its author, *Karma* tells the fascinating story of Boy George and his iconic musical career from the heyday of Culture Club to his late-career renaissance.



Friends, Lovers and the Big Terrible Thing by Matthew Perry

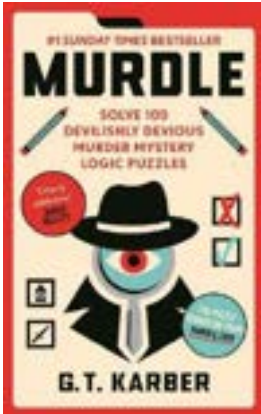
A raw, unflinching memoir made all the more poignant by his recent death.



When Fury Takes Over by John Fury

The father of Tyson Fury talks about the Fury family and provides an insightful look at the Traveller way of life.

Hobbies and Interests



Murdle

Addictive logic puzzles with a murder mystery spin.



The Good Beer Guide 2024

Beer and Pub Guide 2024 with a foreword by Bruce Dickinson, lead singer of Iron Maiden.



The Marvel Cinematic Universe: An Official Time Line

A keepsake for any movie buff, filled with exclusive infographics, illuminating timelines and amazing movie stills.



5 Ingredients – Mediterranean by Jamie Oliver

125 easy-to-follow recipes with a Mediterranean theme.



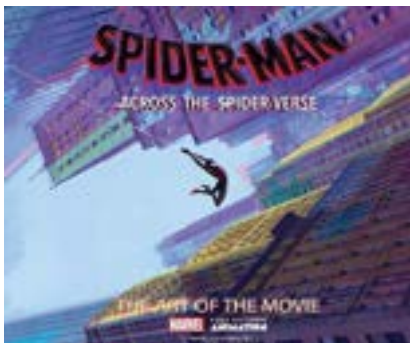
Bazball, the Inside Story of a Test Cricket Revolution by Lawrence Booth and Nick Hoult

Chronicling one of the most exciting revolutions in contemporary sport, *Bazball* tells the story of how England head coach Brendon McCullum and captain Ben Stokes created a brand new Test cricket format.



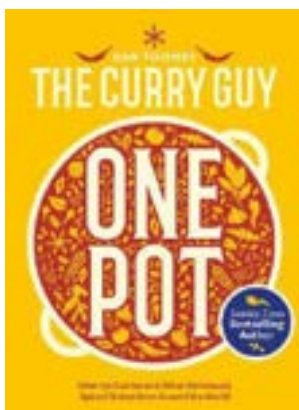
Private Eye Annual 2023

The annual collection of Private Eye's best cartoons, jokes and topical sketches from the satirical current affairs magazine.



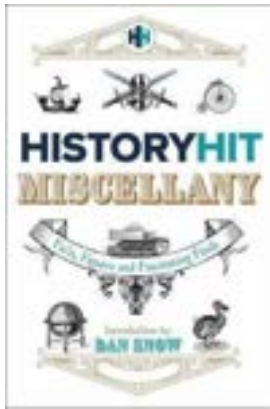
Spider-Man: Across the Spider Verse

The official behind-the-scenes book to Sony Pictures Animation Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse.



Dan Toomb's The Curry Guy – One Pot

The Curry Guy brings you his recipes for all the best one-pot curries, stews, soups, stir-fries and roasts.



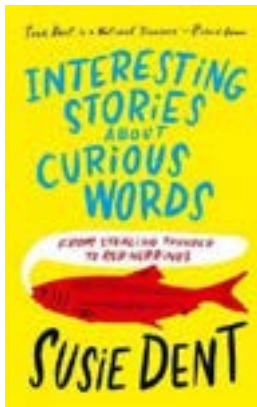
History Hit Miscellany: Facts, Figures and Fascinating Finds

From the third man on the moon to the oldest known shark attack, this hugely entertaining miscellany is packed with jaw-dropping facts and astonishing trivia to astonish even the most hardened history buff.



Hugh Johnson's Pocket Wine Book 2024

Hugh Johnson's annual wine guide reveals the best vintages to buy in 2024, plus insights into different regions and growers.



Interesting Stories about Curious Words by Susie Dent

A book of fascinating tales and histories behind our everyday words and phrases. Did you know Gordon Bennett was a real (very badly behaved) person; as was Jack the lad; and pulling someone's leg was an 18th century robber's trick!



Yoga for Stiff Birds by Marion Deuchars

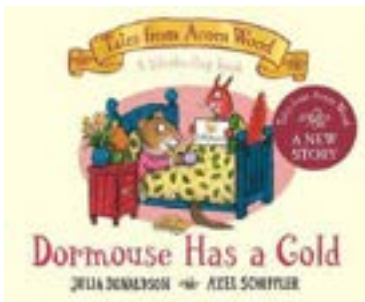
Tackling yoga techniques with the aid of the animated Bob the Bird, this book mixes comedy with invaluable exercise advice.

Children and Teenage



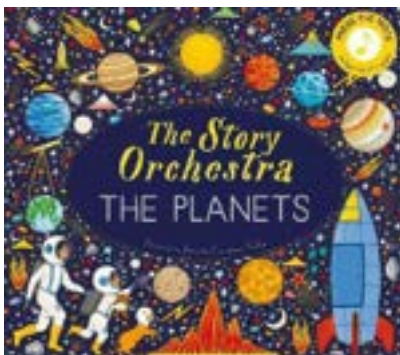
The Big Dreaming by Michael Rosen

A heartwarming tale of a bear cub concerned with the supply of dreams for the long winter slumber. Age 0-5.



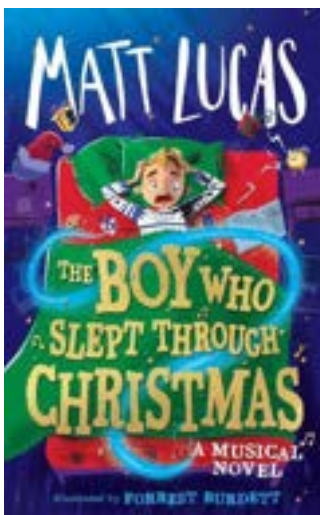
Dormouse has a Cold by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

A new story from Acorn Wood, a lift-the-flap story where dormouse is feeling poorly but is cheered up by her friends. Age 0-5.



The Story Orchestra: The Planets by Jessica Courtney-Tickle

Two siblings jet off into the cosmos in this musical book where little ones can play excerpts from Holst's The Planets to accompany the characters' adventures. Age 0-5.



The Boy who slept through Christmas by Matt Lucas

Accompanied by over twenty original songs penned by the author, this is a funny festive treat that sees young Leo rather rashly wish away all things Christmas. Age 7-10.



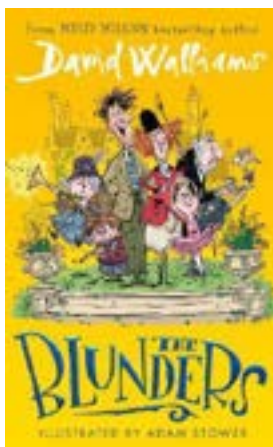
The Christmasaurus Carol by Tom Fletcher

Tom Fletcher's bestselling series returns as an enchanted copy of *A Christmas Carol* throws the festive season into chaos by bringing Ebenezer Scrooge back to life. Age 7-10.



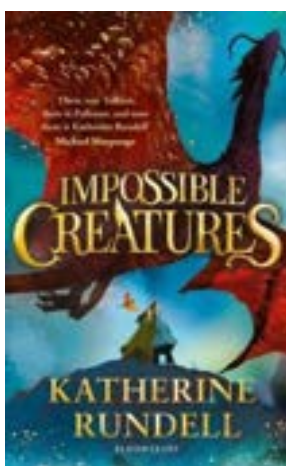
The Miraculous Sweetmakers – The Frost Fair by Natasha Hastings

This book is set during the Great Frost of 1683 and revolves around two girls drawn into the sinister world of a mysterious conjuror. It's a story of friendship, magic and mystery. Age 9-12.



The Blunders by David Walliams

This new book by David Walliams follows the hilarious escapades of an upper-class family in their crumbling stately home. Age 9-12.



Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell

A delightful fantasy which finds an ordinary boy and a flying girl enmeshed in an adventure with a host of magical creatures. Age 9-12.



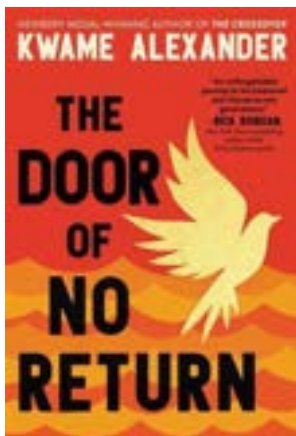
Heartstopper Volume 5 by Alice Oseman

The 5th instalment from this incredibly popular series will be released on 7 December. It is a LGBTQ+ graphic novel about life, love, and everything that happens in between. Age 12-15.



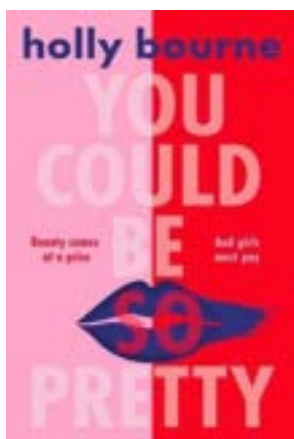
Island of Whispers by Francis Hardinge

A haunting gothic coming-of-age tale about a young Ferryman tasked with transporting the lingering Dead across the dark sea to the Island of the Broken Tower. Age 12-16.



The Door of No Return by Kwame Alexander

An intensely powerful coming-of-age story steeped in African tradition and mythology, Alexander's lyrical novel centres on eleven-year-old Kofi and the harrowing event that separates him from his family and village and sends him on an epic journey across the sea. Age 11-15.



You Could Be So Pretty by Holly Bourne

This is a YA dystopia about a world where there are two options for girls: follow the rules and be a Pretty; or fight the rules and be an Objectionable. Age 14+.