

# The Old Hall Bookshop



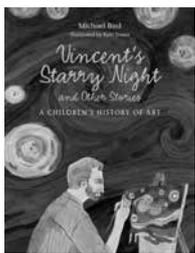
*'The place where books find you'*

Visitors often comment that they see books here that they seldom see in other shops, we take it as a compliment. The books we have selected for this newsletter are to serve as an appetiser for the full range of books, maps, diaries and stationery items we have in the shop. We can take orders over the phone or by email but most of all we would love to see you in the shop.

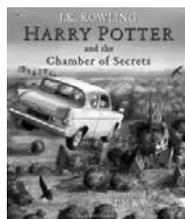
We can advise, or remain silent, gift wrap, offer cups of tea and sometimes even a mince pie!

**All of us at The Old Hall Bookshop wish you a very happy Christmas.**

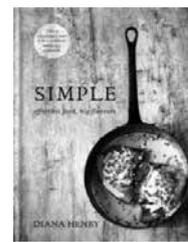
## The following titles will be discounted until Christmas



Vincent's Starry Night and other stories: A Children's History of Art  
RRP £19.95  
**Our Price £14.95**



Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets  
By J K Rowling  
Illustrated edition  
RRP £30  
**Our Price £22.50**



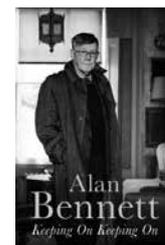
Simple: Effortless Food, Big Flavours  
By Diana Henry  
RRP £25  
**Our Price £18.75**



A Day at the Dinosaur Museum  
RRP £14.99  
**Our Price £11.25**



The Girl Who Saved Christmas  
By Matt Haig  
RRP £12.95  
**Our Price £9.75**



Keeping On Keeping On, By Alan Bennett (some signed copies)  
RRP £25  
**Our Price £18.75**



Botanicum  
RRP £20  
**Our Price £15**



Epic Bike Rides of the World  
RRP £24.99  
**Our Price £18.75**

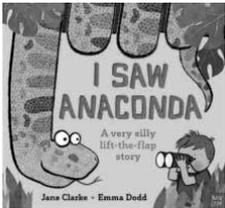


Remarkable Birds: The Beauty and Wonder of the Avian World, By Mark Avery  
RRP £24.95  
**Our Price £18.75**

Why not buy an annual book subscription for a bibliophile friend? Tell us a bit about their interests, be it fiction, history, or cookery, or give us carte blanche and we will select, gift wrap and post a book a month. The cost would depend on your choice of books. For example the cost for 12 paperback novels is £140 and a hardback fiction subscription is £300.



## Children's Choices:

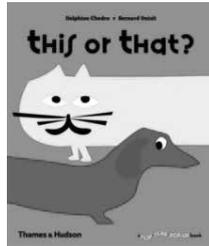


### I Saw Anaconda

Jane Clarke and Emma Dodd  
A funny, rhyming, lift the flap book in which all sorts of animals are swallowed up by an anaconda. **£9.99**

### This or That?

Delphine Chedru  
A pop up book with plenty of interaction for young children. **£8.95**

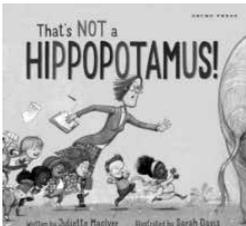
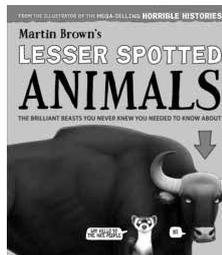


### Oi Dog!

Kes Gray and Jim Field  
This is the hilarious sequel to Oi Frog! and I can guarantee that adults will enjoy it as much as the children. **£6.99**

### Lesser Spotted Animals

Martin Brown  
Say goodbye to the gnu and cheerio to the cheetah and discover instead brilliant beasts you never knew about. **£12.99**

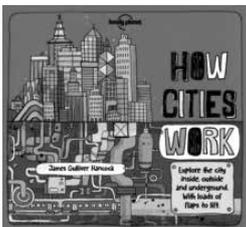
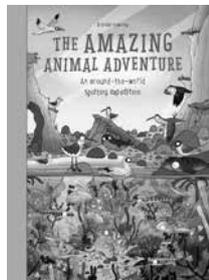


### That's Not a Hippopotamus

Juliet Maclver  
Another rhyming treat with entertaining illustrations. **£10.99**

### The Amazing Animal Adventure: An Around the World Spotting Expedition

Anna Claybourn  
Seek out the weirdest and most wonderful animals in different habitats. Contains questions (and answers) lots of facts and a world map for you to trace your journey. **£14.95**

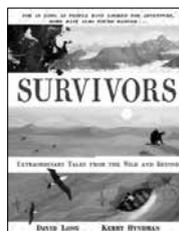


### How Cities Work

Peek behind closed doors and underground to see how our cities work. Learn about skyscrapers, sewers and the Underground. **£12.99**

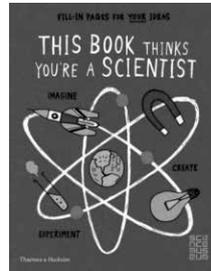
### Survivors: And Other Incredible Stories of Extreme Survival

David Long  
True stories of extreme survival. Not for the faint of heart, which means children will love it! In fact it will fascinate the whole family. **£14.99**



### The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

John Boyne  
A tenth anniversary special edition of this famous book with illustrations by award winning Oliver Jeffers. **£14.99**

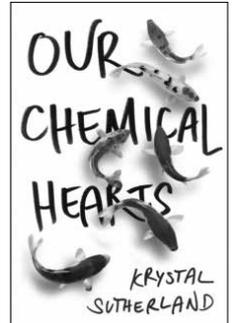


### This Book Thinks You're a Scientist

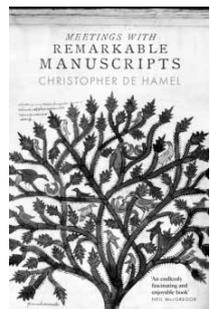
Harriet Russell  
This book explores the seven key scientific areas in the Science Museum's interactive gallery for children. Each spread centres on an open ended question or activity designed to fire up the enquiring mind. **£8.95**

### Our Chemical Hearts

Krystal Sutherland  
A beautifully written novel aimed at the older teenager/young adult, it's a love story written from the viewpoint of hopeless romantic, film buff, wannabe journalist Henry Page who is smitten and intrigued when new girl Grace turns up at school. A bumpy road awaits him but you knew that. Unsentimental and compassionate, a great book. **£7.99**

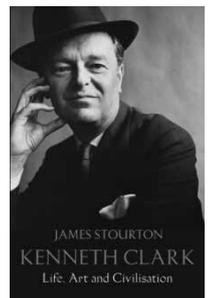


## The Proprietor's Picks:

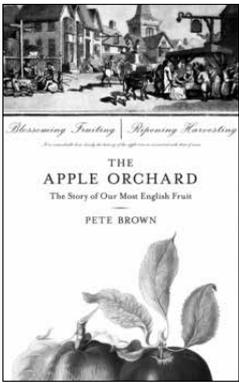


A year or two ago I was invited to dinner by the Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Before we dined, we were guided by Christopher de Hamel, librarian, round the Parker Library, which houses some of the rarest and most ancient manuscripts in the country. Undoubtedly the high spot of the library is the St Augustine Gospels. This ancient illustrated manuscript, sent from Italy to Saint Augustine gives us an extraordinary direct connection back to the founder of Christianity in this country thirteen hundred years ago. Christopher de Hamel's **Meetings with Remarkable Manuscripts, £30** takes the reader through the history of this and 11 other of the most important manuscripts from across the world. Beautifully illustrated, it makes an ideal present.

Some might remember that wonderful television series, 'Civilization', which ran for 13 episodes in 1969. It was personal guide through the history of art by the urbane and learned figure Sir Kenneth Clark. The series, with its beautiful filming and commentary led us into a world that all too often had been hidden by dry and turgid texts and commentaries. **Kenneth Clark: the Authorised Biography** by James Stourton, **£30** gives a fascinating account of the life of a man who was the youngest Director of the National Gallery, had a complicated private life, and became a giant in the mid 20th century world of art and culture.



A rather different world is to be found in the autobiography of Conservative politician, **Ken Clarke: Kind of Blue. A Political Memoir, £25**. A well known Tory wet, Clarke has had a ringside seat in four decades of British politics and his candid account of life in and out of government will entertain readers of all political persuasions.



**The Apple Orchard:  
The Story of Our Most English Fruit**

Pete Brown  
Taking us through the seasons in England's apple growing heartlands. **£16.99**

**Herbarium**  
Caz Hildebrand  
This explores the history, associations and uses, culinary and medicinal of 100 herbs. Also tips on how to grow and keep them. **£16.95**



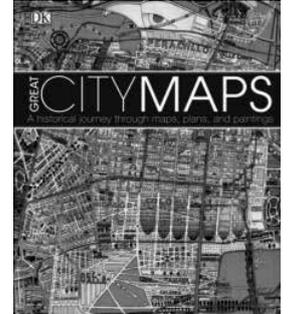
**Fifty English Steeples: The Finest Medieval Parish Church Towers and Spires in England**

Julian Flannery  
Following five years of detailed research this book presents the first survey of the fifty most important spires and towers in England. With over 250 photographs and 175 line drawings this is a beautifully presented book. **£50.**



**Great City Maps**

This book explores the world's most celebrated historical city maps and those of modern mega cities. **£20**

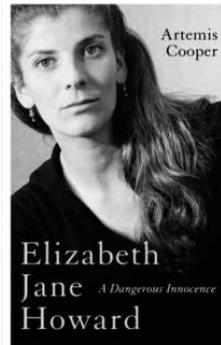
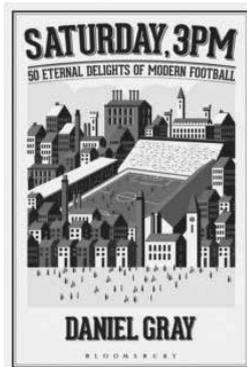


**Istanbul: Cult Recipes**

Pomme Larmover  
A compilation of recipes from Istanbul cuisine plus some recommendations of where to eat should you be lucky enough to visit. This is a mixture of cookbook, travelogue and history of this beautiful city. **£20**

**Saturday 3pm; 50 Eternal Delights of Modern Football**

Daniel Gray  
This is fan culture at its best, 50 short essays dedicated to all that is good in the game, so, a timely offering! **£9.99**

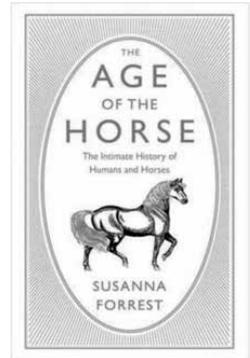


**Elizabeth Jane Howard: A Dangerous Innocence**

Artemis Cooper  
A fascinating and well researched biography of this acclaimed novelist whose success in writing was in stark contrast to the turmoil of her personal relationships. **£25**

**The Age of the Horse: The Intimate History of Humans and Horses**

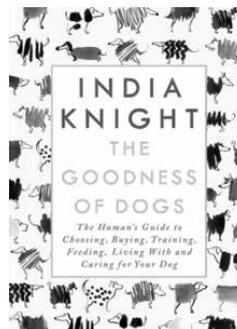
Susanna Forrest  
Revealing the horse's crucial role in the development of society and the advancement of civilisation. **£20**



REALITY IS NOT WHAT IT SEEMS  
THE JOURNEY TO QUANTUM GRAVITY  
CARLO ROVELLI

**Reality is Not What it Seems: The Journey to Quantum Gravity**

Carlo Rovelli  
I loved Rovelli's book 7 Brief Lessons in Physics when it came out earlier this year. Somehow he enables a complete layman to at least conceive of the huge questions that physicists have explored. It promises to be mind expanding, always a good thing. **£16.99**

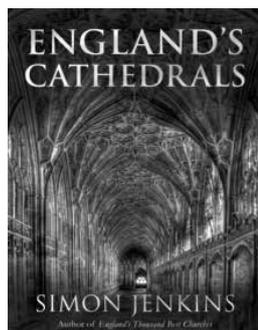


**The Goodness of Dogs: The Human's Guide to Choosing, Buying, Training, Feeding, Living with and Caring for your Dog**

India Knight  
A celebration of dogs and the life enhancing aspects of dog ownership, full of useful information, anecdotes and charming illustrations by Sally Muir. **£14.99**

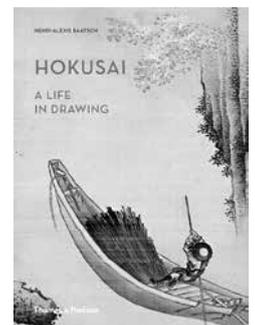
**England's Cathedrals**

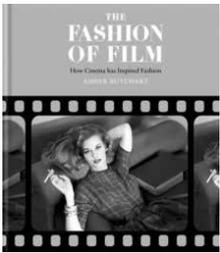
Simon Jenkins  
A big book with glorious photographs of these astonishing and uplifting buildings. They remain unequalled in their splendour and serve as places of pilgrimage to the faithful as well as those seeking solace and beauty. **£30**



**Hokusai: A Life in Drawing**

Henri-Alexis Baatsch  
An introduction to this major artist who combined technical prowess with a vivid imagination and an eye for detail. **£19.95**





### The Fashion of Film: How Cinema Has Inspired Fashion

Amber Jane Butchart

The last 100 years of cinema style has had a huge impact on catwalks and has transformed the world of fashion design. Illustrated with photographs of fashion creations and the films that inspired them. **£30**



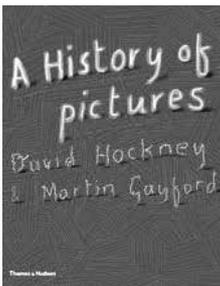
Publishers sometimes let us have copies of books to read in advance of publication, which is how I can let you know that Sebastian Barry's new book, **Days Without End** is definitely one to look out for. The narrator is a young soldier in the US Army at the time of the Indian Wars in the 1850s and then in the Civil War. He describes the hardships of their lives, the friendships with the other men, the humour and the horrors and injustices of the war. A remarkable book. **£17.99**

### Get A Life: The Diaries of Vivienne Westwood

Taken from her online diary that she started in 2010 these entries range from political issues, to the environment and her involvement with fashion and art. Always honest and unpredictable, it's irresistible. **£16.99**



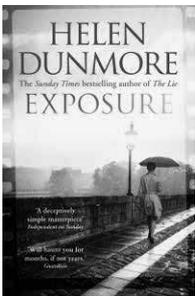
**Good Morning Midnight** by Lily Brooks-Dalton is my favourite book of the year. It was also much loved by the book groups. It is a triumphant and unlikely combination of post apocalyptic and uplifting. An elderly research scientist chooses to remain at a remote compound within the Arctic circle when all his colleagues are evacuated for reasons unknown, meanwhile a homecoming Jupiter space mission find that they have lost all radio contact with mission control and, indeed, anyone on earth at all. Potentially chilly and stark in tone this is in fact full of warmth and humanity. **£14.99**



### A History of Pictures: From the Cave to the Computer Screen

David Hockney and Martin Gayford. This brilliantly original book looks at Art history going back 40,000 years up to the present. It asks questions about why mankind feels the need to make art and why different cultures have different styles. **£29.95**

## Fiction



In what has turned out to be a particularly rich year for fiction here is a tiny selection of some novels that have been enjoyed by us in the shop. Helen Dunmore is a prolific author and never disappoints, her latest book, **Exposure**, is set in London in 1960 at the time of the cold war. When a sensitive government file goes missing a young civil servant is arrested on suspicion of passing secrets to the Soviets. Seemingly his only supporter

is his wife, Lily, who unearths secrets about her husband in her attempts to save him. This was a very good book group read, everyone liked it, there was so much to discuss. **£7.99**



I love Zadie Smith's writing and **Swing Time** is my favourite yet. Set in north west London, Smith's home turf, this follows the ups and downs of the friendship of two girls from early childhood to their thirties. Among the many themes that seamlessly combine to make this such an entertaining read are the well observed childhood relationships, celebrity do gooding in Africa, living with enormous wealth, living in poverty and slavery to name but a few. There are also moments of laugh out loud humour, which is always a good thing. **£18.99**

It is almost impossible to describe **Mend the Living** by Maylis de Kerangal without completely giving away the plot so I will urge you to buy the book and read this unusual and very moving medical drama. The cover is dreadful but don't let it put you off. **£8.99**



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**You took advantage of our expertise.** We have a vested interest in knowing what you need .. why not take advantage of it?

**You made us a destination.** The more interesting and unique we are as a community, the more we will attract new neighbours, visitors and guests.

**This benefits everyone!**

**Thank you!**

The Old Hall Bookshop

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