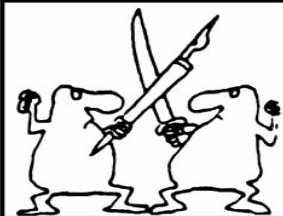


The Mighty Pen

Issue 4 August 2007



Movie Night!!



Seats are selling out fast to our red carpet movie event! The

theme is *South London Gangsta* and the night begins at **6pm, Friday, August 31**. All who want to attend please bring a plate of food or a drink to share. To RSVP add your name to the list on the Staff Noticeboard or email ancombo@tpg.com.au. Once again Adrian is kindly supplying us with the movies but if you've got a favourite you just *have* to show us then bring it along!

Aug Birthdays

Aug 5—Eileen

Did we miss yours? Fill out

the form over the page and drop it into the envelope on the Staff Noticeboard.



Quote of the Month

Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read.

Groucho Marx

(This month's quote kindly sourced by Anna)



Who are the Committee?

President—Kathy Munro

Acting treasurer—Anna Vincent

Secretary—Naomi Frampton

Members—Paul Hodges, Catherine Rafferty, Nancy Joe.

Welcome

There's plenty of activity around the bookshop this month. We've lost three volunteers, two to international travel and another to full-time work (see **Volunteer News** over the page). But we're also gaining lots of new faces—our advertisements through QUT, UQ and Volunteering Queensland have been very popular so expect to meet lots of new volunteers over the coming weeks.

Weekend Trading Update: Saturday 9.30-5, Sunday 10-3

We have been trialling extended weekend trading for nearly two months now, opening until 5pm on Saturday (instead of closing at 2.30) and from 10 until 3 on Sunday. We wanted to see if weekend trading would increase our overall sales, which it has. So far the additional Saturday hours and Sunday trading have been equally profitable. We will make a final decision next week, but we think extended Saturday trading will stay. The extra income is really helpful, and extended Saturday trading is less stressful on volunteers than Sunday trading.

This is also an appropriate time to say a huge "thank you" to our loyal band of Saturday morning volunteers! They work very hard and Saturdays are always very busy. If the Bookshop decides to keep all-day Saturday trading the day will be split into a morning and afternoon shift and we will recruit new afternoon volunteers (never fear Saturday volunteers, we won't make you work all day!). If anyone has any questions or comments on weekend trading you can email Anna here at ancombo@tpg.com.au, or come in this Saturday afternoon or Sunday (1st & 2nd October) and have a chat!

Spicks and Specks (www.abc.net.au/spicksandspecks)

Dedicated ABC watchers, keep your eyes peeled for the following Annerley Bookshop titles making their possible debut on **Spicks and Specks**: *Arnold Schwarzenegger's Fitness For Kids*; *GP, Behind the Scenes*; *Breast Care*; *Looking Good, A Guide to Male Grooming* (c.1985); *A Guide to Christian Camping*; and *Know Your Pet Gerbil*. If you spot any other excellent titles pop them on the holds shelf (see **Tip of the Month** over the page for its new location) with a note that says 'Spicks and Specks'.

Customer Survey

Andrew, our Friday volunteer, is using the bookshop as a case study for his Library Studies course. He's drawn up a survey for customers asking their opinion on having access to our bookshop catalogue. Next week there will be a stack of these survey forms on the front table, and Andrew would really appreciate it if we could ask all customers to fill one out.

Tales from the Committee

Thanks The committee formally thanked Marty Shergold for his signwriting on the street-front columns. Thanks also went to Julie Hardeman, our old neighbour, for donating the excellent display unit that's currently advertising our extended opening hours. Thanks guys!

AGM Can you believe it, AGM preparations already?! This year will be another combined AGM/Christmas Party and you're all invited! Watch this space for a confirmed date.

Customer emailing list We're looking to start a customer emailing list to go out weekly, advertising the week's spot sale, special events and exciting goings-on at the bookshop.

QUT student collaboration In the first week of August a couple of (slightly nervous) committee members gave presentations to two groups of Marketing and Public Relations students from QUT, talking about who we are and what we do. You may see students from both groups in the shop over the next few weeks as they prepare their assignments so please make them feel welcome. As part of their assignment the students will produce a folio of marketing and PR material that we will hopefully be able to put to good use!

Next committee meeting 6.30 Tuesday, September 25 (Damian will attend this meeting as a guest, just let one of us know if you would like to do the same).

Love these ideas? Hate them? Have better ones? Talk to Paul, Nancy or Anna if there's anything you'd like to discuss at committee meetings.

Newsletter contributions & feedback

Articles written and compiled by: Anna Vincent, Nancy Joe. Edited by: Paul Hodges. Layout by: Jeanette Shepherd. If you would like to contribute, please speak to one of us, or email us at ancombo@tpg.com.au. We welcome all feedback and suggestions and article submissions!



Tip of the Month

The customer holds shelf has moved! It can now be found just in the shelves right next to the door in the back office. This is to give our ever growing ABE collection room to grow. Keep your eyes peeled too for quirky, hilarious or downright strange titles for us to send to the ABC TV show **Spicks and Specks** (www.abc.net.au/spicksandspecks). Leave the books on the holds shelf with a note saying 'Spicks and Specks'.

Help Wanted

Story-tellers wanted Are you outgoing, enjoy putting on a show and get on well with children? If you answered yes, yes and yes, then we need you for our children's story-telling sessions! Chat to us (Paul, Anna, Nancy) if you're interested or would like more info or send us an email at ancombo@tpg.com.au.

Reminders

- Save a tree and read The Mighty Pen online at www.annerleybookshop.com.au/volunteers.htm. Or fill out the coupon below or email us to receive your newsletter via email.
- Look out for the bright yellow signs at the front door and counter. They're there to remind everyone what's on sale each week.
- We want friends, friends, more friends! www.myspace.com/annerleybookshop

Bookshop News

Around the world in 80 volunteers

This month we said goodbye to the globe-trotting **Kathy** and **Jeanette**. You can get your African Adventure fix with Jeanette at www.getjealous.com/tangerinejelly, and Kathy's Indian and European jaunt is chronicled at sibylsscribbles.blogspot.com.

Displaying a level of dedication common to many bookshop volunteers, our resident film-buff **Adrian** will be spending **September 5-19** in Hong Kong, searching high and low for cinematic masterpieces for future Movie Nights!

Our invaluable manager **Paul** is taking a well-earned break from **September 10-24**. You can either be extra-specially nice to him this month (to ensure his return) or extra-specially awful (so his holiday feels all the more well-earned!).

A belated get-well and also a big welcome back to **Wendy**, who has recovered from her eye operation and is now very much back-on-deck.

Congratulations to **Nancy** who has found herself full-time work. For those who miss her smiling face she can often be found in the Bookshop on a Sunday morning. She also continues to write and edit this fine publication (mainly because we won't let her stop!) so you can still email her at ancombo@tpg.com.au with any inclusions, comments or feedback.

Bookshop Visitors

The bookshop is playing host to many visitors over the coming weeks and months. We are doing collaborative work with two groups of students from QUT (Public Relations Writing and postgraduate Marketing) and a group of Southbank TAFE students (which includes our volunteer Andrew). They will be in and around the shop over the coming term, asking questions and chatting to volunteers. Keep an eye out for them and be sure to make them feel welcome.

We are also working closely with Community Development students from Yeronga TAFE. These students have now split into three groups looking specifically at marketing the shop, local community expectations and volunteer recognition. Each group will need direct feedback from all of us so please be ready to answer their questions. The volunteer recognition group will also produce a simple questionnaire specifically for seeking your feedback so expect that to be coming at you in the next week or so!

All August, all books, Buy-3-Get-1-Free!

Weekly spot sales have been reinstated, and our Buy-3-Get-1-Free promotion is still running—if customers purchase three books they are entitled to an additional book free of charge (the cheapest book is free). There are still lots of *Buy 3 Get 1 Free* vouchers at the front counter, so throw them at every customer you see! The shop sale is only on until the end of August, but the vouchers can be redeemed until the end of the year.

Keep an eye out for the extremely bright signs on the till and at the front counter letting you know the spot sale for the week. All books in the spot sale section are 50% off for that week.

We need your help! Have you got any ideas about how we can increase our bookshop sales? How to attract more customers? What we can do to promote ourselves better? If you have an answer let us know! Here's how:

- Fill out a piece of paper with your suggestions and place it in the red Suggestions Mailbox at the front counter
- Speak to Paul, Nancy, Anna or another committee member about your idea
- Send an email to ancombo@tpg.com.au or leave a note in the Communications Book

✂

Sign up here to help us reduce paper waste!
Fill in your details and pop this coupon into the envelope on the staff noticeboard to get your newsletter emailed to you.

Name: _____

Email: _____

✂

We really want to wish you a happy birthday so don't be shy, fill in this coupon and place in the envelope on the staff noticeboard.

Name: _____

Birthday (Month/Day): _____