

BOOKS

BOOKS TO WIN



TO enter the draw for books, put three tokens in an envelope, write your name, address and book title on the back and mail to: Books, PO Box 14755, Melbourne 8001.

- *Legends of the Australian Football Hall of Fame*, edited by Geoff Slattery. Slattery Media Group. rrp \$39.95
- *Legends of the Australian Football Hall of Fame*, edited by Geoff Slattery. Entries close Sept 27. Winners Oct 10.
- *Heart of the Valley*, by Cathryn Hein. Entries close Sept 27. Winners Oct 10.
- *Cake Pops: Delightful cakes for every occasion*, by Francis Van Arkel. Entries close Sept 27. Winners Oct 10.
- *The Sunday Roast*, by the Australian Women's Weekly. Entries close Sept 20. Winners Oct 3.
- *Man in a Grey Suit: A Memoir of Surfing, Shark Attack and Survival*, by Glenn Orgias. Entries close Sept 20. Winner Oct 3.
- *The Richmond Conspiracy*, by Andrew Grimes. Entries close Sept 20. Winners Oct 3.
- *The Sensible Sleep Solution: A Guide to Sleep in Your Baby's First Year*, by Sarah Blunden and Angie Willcocks. Entries close Sept 13. Winners Sept 26.
- *From Eskimo Point to Alice Springs: Adventures in Nursing, From the Arctic to the Outback*, by Anne Watts. Entries close Sept 13. Winners Sept 26.
- *Wattle Creek*, by Fiona McCallum. Entries close Sept 13. Winners Sept 26.
- *Barack Obama*, by David Maraniss. Entries close tomorrow. Winners Sept 19.
- *Irish Traditional Cooking*, by Darina Allen. Entries close tomorrow. Winners Sept 19.
- *Detroit and the Valley of Hills Creek*, by Nicola Crichton-Brown. Entries close tomorrow. Winners Sept 19.

WINNERS

- *Welcome to the Outback*, by Sue Williams — R. O'Keefe, Ivanhoe; R. Grover, Reservoir; L. Hesketh, Wantima; J. Baldwin, Ellinbank; P. Goode, Narrawang.
- *How to Get Your Mojo Back; Every Woman's Guide to Health and Happiness*, by Dr Ginni Mansberg — K. Christie, Manangatang; J. Baker, Burnie (Tas); D. Browne, Hanwood (NSW); K. Howe, Deloraine (Tas); V. Hodges, Nyora.
- *The History of Australian Wine: Stories from the vineyard to the cellar door*, by Max Allen — C. Rowley, Mill Park; J. Hartwell, Kangaroo Flat; N. Lowe, Mt Evelyn; L. Honan, Ascot Vale.

A textbook on talent



Power: Darrel Baldock soon after St Kilda recruited him from Tasmania.

Legends of the Australian Football Hall of Fame, Edited by Geoff Slattery. Slattery Media Group. rrp \$39.95

THIS book is a must for football fans. It extensively details the profiles of the 24 AFL Hall of Fame legends.

For young readers, especially, who never saw some of the game's legends play, the book captures something of their skill and importance to the game.

So what makes a legend? The introduction provides a potted summary of the essential qualities.

Besides remarkable skills and endurance, they all had something else. It is the footy X factor.

Simply put, the introduction notes, legends deserve this mantle because the "level of excellence they achieved was considerably higher and went for substantially longer".

Even so, as the book makes clear, no legend reached his lofty status without the support of teammates.

Each legend might have been a star but they were a star in the context of team.

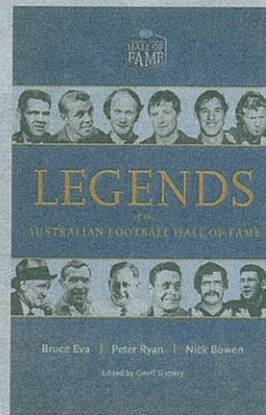
However, being part of a

premiership winning team was not a defining quality of a legend. Five of the legends included did not play in a premiership.

There are some immortal names in VFL/AFL history featured: Darrel Baldock, John Colman, Bob Skilton, Bob Pratt

and Jock McHale to name only a handful. All 24 are generously presented with statistics and plenty of anecdotes and reminiscences from players, coaches and officials.

Naturally, this book will appeal to followers of football.



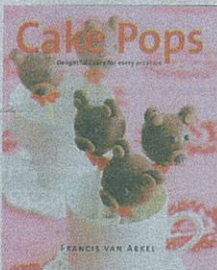
However, the qualities that are ultimately impressive are those of modesty on the ground and understated heroics.

These footballers performed for their teammates each weekend. They are true greats in every sense.

— Christopher Bantick

We have five copies to give away. See right for details.

Sticky delights for young and young-at-heart



Cake Pops: Delightful cakes for every occasion, by Francis Van Arkel. New Holland, rrp \$19.95

WHY hasn't anyone thought of this idea sooner?

Cross a lollipop with a bite-size mound of cake and create a cute and eye-catching edible, yet decorative, creation.

Francis Van Arkel, food stylist and consultant, has come up with 35 recipes — all beautifully illustrated — for cake pops in every shape, size and colour.

And while they look enticing, they are surely more waistline-friendly, with each a morsel of yumminess perched atop a stick, or presented bonbon or praline style on a plate, or even in mini ice cream cones.

There are cake pops decorated to look like bears, clowns, fish, flowers, heart-shaped and wedding cake.

The idea is to let your imagination go wild — though the grown-up versions would impress any dinner party guest.

The introduction outlines how to make these tiny sweet treats.

Each is based on cake crumbs mixed with frosting or butter cream (maybe not so waistline-friendly after all).

The mix is rolled into balls that are dipped into candy melts.

Then it's just a case of being creative.

Perfect concepts for your next children's party.

— Sarah Hudson

We have five copies to give away. See right for details.

Showjumper's heart broken by accident

Heart of the Valley, by Cathryn Hein. Penguin. rrp \$29.95

BUSH romance fiction is fast becoming a popular genre. With *Heart of the Valley*, it is easy to see why.

All the elements of what makes a good yarn are here: drama, self-doubt, a tentative relationship and love.

Does this sound a bit ho-hum? Well, you're in for a surprise.

Set on a family block in the Hunter Valley, the plot is

straightforward initially.

We meet Brooke Kingston. She's got a bleeding heart because she has just called it quits with her boyfriend.

Sound familiar? The fact is that Brooke is a little bit sassy and very stubborn. She's into show jumpers big time and horses are, it has to be said, more reliable than blokes in her life.



Brooke's life changes when she loses control of her car pulling a horse float.

While she survives the crash, there is real doubt as to whether her favourite horse, Poddy, will ever compete again.

In true romance style, an unexpected turn of events in the shape of a man arrives.

Lachie Cambridge turns up as the new manager of the family

property, Kingston Downs.

He and Brooke don't quite see eye to eye.

But Lachie, the no-nonsense manager, is smitten. Brooke meanwhile has her own issues in facing life after the accident.

Quite how all this gets resolved is a close run thing, but it is not what you'd think.

This is a book that will have you reaching for the tissues.

— Christopher Bantick

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INVESTIGATOR



Fan needs a friend to help find Elvis tribute

DESPITE passing away 35 years ago, Elvis Aaron Presley — the King — remains one of the most popular American singers.

Reader Pam is a fan and is tracking down a particular soundtrack.

"I am looking for a soundtrack recording of *My Friend Elvis*. It is narrated by J.D. Sumner and is a tribute to Elvis from J.D. of how he saw his life," Pam says.

"It doesn't matter if it is on CD or tape, but I can't seem to buy it anywhere.

"I would be grateful if anyone can help me." If you can help Pam phone: (03) 5962 3505.

■ On October 20, Bell Park High School's Class of 1962 will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

"We are seeking students who might be interested in attending," the organisers say.

The anniversary starts at 6.30pm at the Telegraph Hotel, Pakington St, Geelong West. Please RSVP by September 21. Ph: (03) 5278 8239

■ And another school reunion — this time Citgathen Public School. Organiser Joy Mann (Whybourn) says the school, which was in the

Murray Shire off Southdown Rd in NSW, is planning a reunion for the 80th anniversary of the school.

The celebrations will be on September 29 on the old school site from 11am.

"We would like to hear from any ex-students or their families," Joy says.

Some families involved were Peterson, Hanlon, Church, Carnell, Watson, Glenn, Bibby and Whybourn.

If you are interested in attending phone Joy: (03) 5881 3530.

Can you answer these queries? Do you have a question? Write to: Investigator, The Weekly Times, PO Box 14999, Melbourne 8001 or email countryliving@theweeklytimes.com.au