

The best in new books

■ From Review 1

Dennis Davison

Fury Mauricia Meehan, Penguin.

EXPERIENCE love and horror in revolutionary Paris with brave, sexy Olympe de Gouges: a remarkable recreation of Parisian life in intimate detail.

The Worry Box Marion Halligan, Minerva.

SENSITIVE stories about frail men, furtive lovers, freaks, film stars and five females with painted breasts who live in a caravan in Canberra.

The Common Rat Carmel Bird, McPhee Gribble.

WITH typical Tasmanian humour, the author offers a novel bird's-eye view of childhood, mingled with quirky anecdotes about rats, Henry Lawson, sewing-machines and wearing a Maiden-form bra.

True Country Kim Scott, Fremantle Arts Centre Press.

THE disintegrating culture of Aboriginal dwellers at a mission in the far north is both pathetic and comic in this unusual, impressionistic, unsentimental account.

What I Have Written John A. Scott, Penguin.

SEXUAL passion in Paris is presented as a sophisticated literary puzzle in this stylish, intriguing novel, which satirises male fantasising and female erotic teasing.

Blind Luck Mandy Sayer, UQP.

ROSE, a 12-year old girl, dragged from sordid flats to a women's refuge in Melbourne, learns to become streetwise without losing her optimism or good nature.

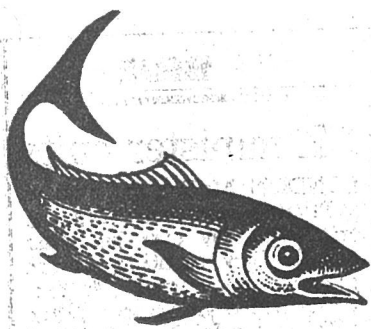
Patent Lies Gail Morgan, Allen & Unwin.

IN this impressive novel a Sicilian migrant, a soapie star and others are seeking the lost journal of James Cook, quotations from which are a sheer delight.

The Truth of Everything Victor Barker, Simon & Schuster.

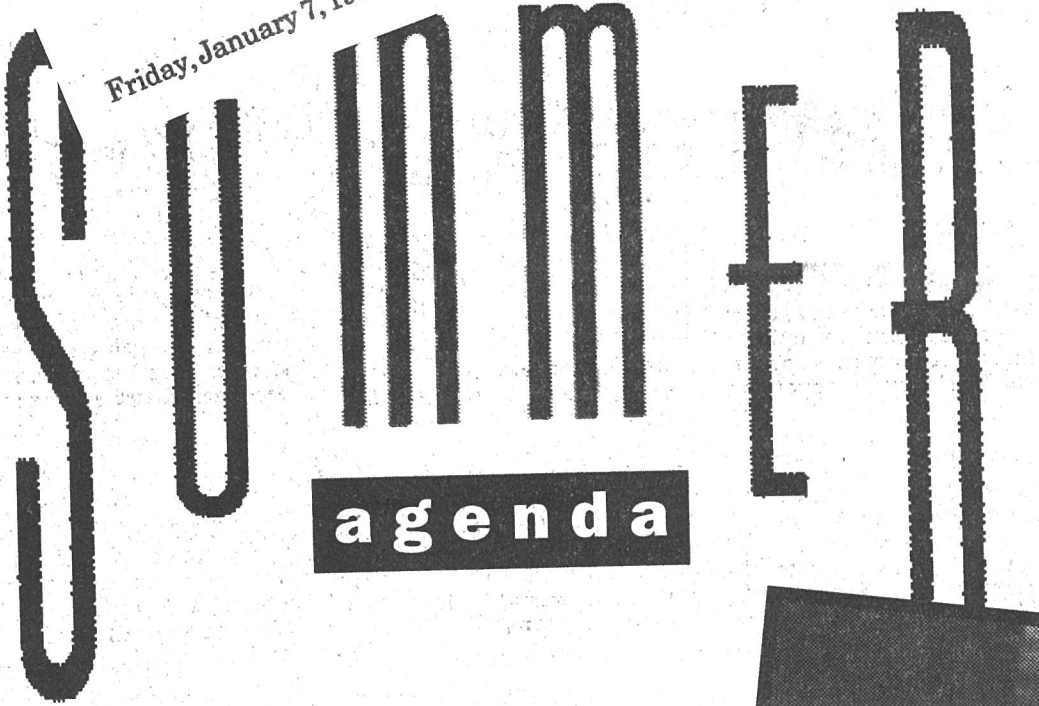
WHO is the mysterious Xavier, wandering gun-runner and lecher, who heads a strange cult in Cairns? This novel offers a smorgasbord of occult experiences in a dozen countries.

The Sydney Morning Herald



Drivers never forget their first car. The freedom, the power, the exhilaration transform a pedestrian lifestyle to the fast lane in the

Friday, January 7, 1994 7



Hot stuff

Film of the Day: *Malcolm X* (AFI cinema, Sunday night only). Don't miss this one-off chance to catch Spike Lee's sprawling, enthralling bio-pic on the big screen. So compelling is Denzel Washington that at times he seems to be channelling the very spirit of the controversial civil rights leader. First 10 callers on 332 2408 at midday today will win double passes.

Hot Fashion: Keep UV rays out and crow's feet at bay with good-quality sunglasses in summer. Everest summiteer Jon Muir is one of the sporting stars promoting Bolle's sunglasses this season. The Spirit 4361 costs \$199.95 and can be found at department stores, OPSM and Sunglass World.

Summer Reading: *Patent Lies* by Gail Morgan (Allen and Unwin rrp \$19.95). "... The annexe began to fill with body odour, as the two men re-read the document. Until now they had lived small lives. They had voted for the one party, mowed the lawn on Sundays, abused fire

bans, cheated on their wives. Only occasionally could something significant happen in the small township that was legal practice. A great meteorite falls from the sky, and there is nothing left to do but to take measurements and scratch the scalp. For McLaughlin and Spinoza this was a new time; a time

for genuine awe, humility, scalp scratching and a paying of final respects before the revelation would have to become public knowledge ..."



Paperbacks

Another original novel from Jeanette Winterson, *WRITTEN ON THE BODY* (Vintage) is a genderless love story and philosophical meditation on the body.

SWEET WATER - STOLEN LAND (UQP) Philip McLaren's Australian pastoral family saga, interweaving the tale of two families, black and white.

In Gail Morgan's *PATENT LIES* (Allen and Unwin Original), a bitter writer causes trouble by bequeathing five versions of her manuscript to a literary editor, a retired historian, a Sicilian bricklayer, his daughter and a sex symbol from a weekly soap opera.

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