



March Friends

Friends Monthly Book Club

For Friends of the NLA only. This month's book is *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini.

Date: Tuesday 25 March

Time: 7.00 – 8.30 pm

Venue: Friends Lounge

Bookings: (02) 6262 1551 or friends@nla.gov.au

Australia in Maps

Take advantage of this exclusive 'white gloves' event to view selected items from the Library's magnificent Maps Collection, held in conjunction with the launch of the new National Library book *Australia in Maps*.

Date: Friday 4 April

Time: 6.00 – 8.00 pm

Venue: Foyer and Visitors Centre

Cost: \$20 Friends, \$25 non-members (light refreshments included)

Bookings essential: (02) 6262 1698 or friends@nla.gov.au

Due to the large number of public holidays this month, the only Friends event scheduled for March is the monthly book club meeting. However, on Friday 4 April there is a fabulous 'white gloves' event, *Australia in Maps*, that you might wish to book early for. For those of you who have never attended a white gloves event before, this is your chance to get up close and personal with a selection of precious items from the National Library's Maps Collection. And yes, you will need to don a pair of white gloves before examining the items.

Over centuries, the southern continent has been misrepresented in maps as explorers have imagined what they could not find. Consequently, the continent has been miscrafted by some of the best known and eminent mapmakers and explorers. The Library's collection of these misconceptions is an outstanding catalogue of this work, from the imaginary Renaissance southlands 'Terra Australis' and 'Beach', to the drawings

of French cartographers just before and even after Cook's 1770 voyage. The *Australia in Maps* event will display an extremely rare chart drawn by the Dutch East India Company cartographer Abraham Anias—no other examples are to be found in Australia. This hand-drawn chart, outlined in colour and in surprisingly good condition, dates to the late 1720s and includes a part of the Australian west coast. You will see many other items, including rare maps, atlases, globes and urban subdivision sales posters. During the evening, there will also be the official launch of the new National Library book, *Australia in Maps*, which further discusses many of the items on display.

I hope to see you at this event. To make a booking, please contact the Friends office on (02) 6262 1698 or friends@nla.gov.au.

SHARYN O'BRIEN

Acting Executive Officer

Friends of the National Library of Australia

SPECIAL OFFER

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Offer ends 31 March 2008

Only available to members of Friends of the National Library of Australia. Please quote your membership number when ordering.

For bookings, details of membership and subscriptions, contact:

Friends of the NLA
National Library of Australia
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Tel: (02) 6262 1698
Fax: (02) 6273 4493
Email: friends@nla.gov.au
Website: www.nla.gov.au/friends

Donald Friend (1915–1989)
Shoppers at Night, Bondi Junction Mall
(detail)

From 'Ayam–Ayam Kesayangan'
Manuscript Collection MS 5959, Item 2

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

SEED CAKE AND HONEY PRAWNS

FASHION AND FAD IN AUSTRALIAN FOOD

BY COLIN BANNERMAN

From blackened damper and mutton to the designer concoctions of food and fashion fanatics, Australian food has left behind its colonial privations to become as delectably diverse as its population. In this wry, audacious and absorbing consideration of the history of food in this country over the past 150 years, Colin Bannerman spares no dish, no recipe and no chef that captures his attention. Carefully researched, drawing on an array of magazines, newspapers and books held at the National Library, *Seed Cake and Honey Prawns: Fashion and Fad in Australian Food* is an entertaining and delightfully opinionated book about an essential aspect of Australian culture.

Available from the National Library Bookshop or by mail order:

Sales and Distribution, National Library of Australia

Tel: 1800 800 100 • Fax: (02) 6273 1084 • Email: nlasales@nla.gov.au

Website: www.nla.gov.au/onlineshop • ABN 28 346 858 075

Publishing Australia's Stories



ISBN 978-0-642-27624-7
pb, 230 x 230 mm, 140pp
b&w and colour illus.
RRP \$34.95

National Library of Australia Treasures Gallery

Treasure of the Month



This model represents Danish architect Jørn Utzon's resolution of the challenge of realising his concept for the shells or roof vaults for the Sydney Opera House which opened in 1973. An Australian icon, the Opera House was named by *Time* magazine as one of the five outstanding buildings of the twentieth century. Utzon, winner of the international design competition in 1957, showed vision ahead of his time, and innovative techniques for construction were developed as building progressed. In 1966, Utzon left Australia after

state authorities rejected his designs for interior spaces and declined to pay his outstanding fees. Despite Utzon's repeated requests to return and complete the project, Australian architects were employed to draw up the interior designs. Utzon received the Pritzker Prize, architecture's equivalent of the Nobel Prize, in 2003.

Jørn Utzon (b.1918)
Architect's model for the geometry of the Sydney Opera House shells 1961
wood, paint; 8.6 x 89.0 x 29.5 cm
Pictures Collection, nla.pic-an7650469

Help us build our Treasures Gallery

The National Library's collection has been growing since its foundation in 1901, and contains many items of national importance. To make these more accessible to the public, the Library is planning a Treasures Gallery to showcase them, with accompanying interpretation and the highest standards of preservation. Telling the stories of Australia's history and culture, the Gallery will be a must-see destination for all Australians. Each month, *National Library of Australia News* will feature an item to be displayed in the future Gallery.

Your donation to the Treasures Gallery Appeal will help us realise our goal.

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

To find out how you can donate, call the Development Office on 02 6262 1141 or email development@nla.gov.au.
Alternatively, visit our website to download a Treasures Gallery donation form at www.nla.gov.au/supportus.