

Tekstboekje

LETTERS

MAIL CALL

Life on the Red Planet?

Readers were divided on the value of the **search for life on Mars**, subject of our Dec. 6 report.

WE READ YOUR ARTICLE "THE SEARCH for Life" with great interest, but felt upset that billions of dollars are being spent in the search for life on Mars. This money should be redirected for research in ecofriendly energy sources.

MEL and JOHN HAGERTY
ALDBOURNE, ENGLAND

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HAD A HARD time raising funds from the King of Spain, too. But who, today, would argue that his effort was not worthwhile? So what is all this equivocation about getting a man on Mars? Quibbles about microeconomics and management efficiencies should pale before the sheer scientific and human challenge that this project begs.

DAVID GREEN
LIMASSOL, CYPRUS

SHOULDN'T WE DETERMINE THAT THERE is intelligent life down here before we blow another billion dollars or so trying to find it on Mars?

ROBERT DEL VALLE
ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

Newsweek

The captain, the passenger and one ironic comment

1 **P**assenger Clive Warshaw was barred
from a Virgin flight last week after
making an ironic comment to a pilot
who turned up late for a flight
5 already delayed by 13 hours.

2 Is this pilot power gone mad? Warshaw,
who paid £3,500 for his business-class return
to Miami, thinks so. "You have to question
the captain's psychological balance. He
10 looked as if he'd just been dragged out of bed
and was clearly in a foul mood. All I said was
'well done'. If that's all it takes to make him
crack, you wonder how he'd cope under
pressure at 33,000ft."

3 15 Virgin, which has offered £2,000 and
80,000 air miles as compensation, stands by
its man and says: "The captain felt Mr
Warshaw's behaviour suggested he could be
disruptive during the flight. He was therefore
20 fully justified in not letting him board."
Warshaw is unrepentant: "I have three
witnesses from the flight who've written to
Virgin in my defence – one of them works for
the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)."

4 25 Was the pilot acting lawfully? According
to the CAA's Air Navigation Order, "every

person in an aircraft shall obey all lawful
commands which the commander of that
aircraft may give for the purposes of securing
30 the safety of the aircraft ... or the efficiency or
regularity of air navigation". Was Warshaw
disobeying commands? Clearly not. Was he a
threat to the "efficiency or regularity of air
navigation"? He says no, the captain says
35 potentially yes, end of story.

5 So far, so lawful, but was the pilot being
fair? "It doesn't sound like it," says Tony
Dixon, editor of *Airliner World*. "If all Mr
Warshaw said was 'well done', well, it is a bit
40 harsh, isn't it?"

6 Dixon believes a tabloid thirst for "air
rage" reports may have made pilots more
twitchy than in the past. Ironically, CAA
reports suggest a decline in disruptive
45 behaviour on UK airlines (last year you had to
fly 36,000 times to encounter a serious
incident). But in this case at least, it seems the
pilot was taking no chances. You have been
warned – an ironic comment could see you
50 left on the runway.

Jeremy Lazell

The Sunday Times

Double-Deckers, Death and Shame

To the editor:

I am a member of one of the neighborhood organizations that have been “protesting these oversized vehicles since they first appeared almost eight years ago” (“Double-Decker Menace,” editorial, May 27). It was surprising for me to see the same members of the mayor’s office and Police Department who have ignored our pleas in the past now demand that city and state laws and regulations be enforced after a New York Apple Tours bus killed a pedestrian.

PHILIP KASSEN
New York

The New York Times

First I was shocked, then I didn't feel charitable

1 The world offers no image more powerful than a new-born baby. It promises everything, this
5 little bundle of skinny limbs and squashed-up face. It holds hope for us all.

2 Hold that image in
10 your mind for a moment and add a new one. This is associated with filth and squalor and disease. It is a cockroach. Now

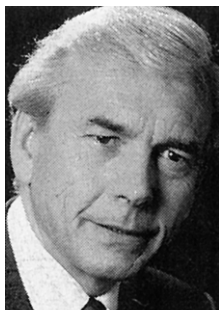
15 combine the two images. Thrust a giant cockroach into the mouth of that baby. Could anything be more loathsome, more repellent? Who would do such a thing?

3 The answer is a children's charity:
20 Barnardo's. Of course Barnardo's did not do it literally. It exists to protect children. Its advertising agency used a computer to create the image, then plastered it over the newspapers.

4 25 The first impression is that of abused babies, but the campaign is about poverty. Its message rests on the equation that poverty equals abuse. If the images are loathsome, the words are deceitful, patronising, foolish and
30 damaging. As the text puts it: "Poverty is waiting to crush Mary's hope and ambition and is likely to lead her to a future of drug abuse."

5 To the millions of people in this country
35 who, like me, were born into poor families, that is monstrous. It would be absurd to suggest there is no such thing as poverty. It is equally absurd to suggest that a child born into poverty will be crushed as a direct result
40 of it. It is true that a poor child has fewer opportunities than a rich one. But ask yourself who is the more fortunate: a child with loving caring parents and no money or a child whose rich parents couldn't care less. Poor children
45 end up as addicts; so do the children of the rich.

6 Now, let us accept for a moment the campaign's claim that poverty can crush a child. What are we meant to do about it? The
50 advertisements invite us to call Barnardo's



John Humphrys

and, implicitly, to donate some cash. And what will Barnardo's do? It is about 30 years since it ran the orphanages that carried its name. Now it runs a series of admirable
55 projects around the country helping youngsters with problems such as sexual abuse or homelessness. It is important work, but as Barnardo's would acknowledge, this is dealing with the effects of poverty rather than
60 its cause.

7 The stated purpose of the campaign is not to raise money but to challenge attitudes. Andrew Nebel of Barnardo's says child poverty is an issue "which the public is
65 almost in denial about. We needed to overcome public apathy". If that is true we must indeed change our attitudes and put pressure on the politicians – the only people with enough power to do something serious.

8 70 Is it true? Are we apathetic? In 1997 we elected a government committed to tackling child poverty and it is doing so. According to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation it is likely to hit its interim target of taking 1m children out
75 of poverty by next April. The Sure Start scheme aimed at helping the poorest children is widely acknowledged to be working, albeit more slowly than hoped. Child poverty is on the agenda and will stay there.

9 80 So £1m of charitable contributions is being spent on a shock campaign to alert us to something of which we are already aware and which is being tackled. You might think the money would be better spent directly helping
85 vulnerable youngsters.

10 Successful campaigns are meant to leave you with an unforgettable impression. Barnardo's has succeeded in my case. It is an image of a group of sharp-suited advertising executives in their oak-panelled boardroom
90 slapping each other on the back at the outrage they have created and the column inches they have filled. Champagne all round, no doubt.

11 As for me, I have given a little help to
95 Barnardo's over the years because they do good work. People who do my job often get asked. But next time they call I think I may be busy. If Barnardo's wants to outrage in this way it can do it without me.

The Sunday Times

Theatre review

Car * * * * *

Pleasance Cavern

Two very different Englands are represented here. Different on the surface, anyway. Gary is from Middle England. He earns a good living as a salesman, has a nice wife, a nice home and nice kids. Nick is the product of a dysfunctional family from a sink estate. He gets his kicks by stealing cars with his mates. When they pinch Gary's T-reg VW Golf, their lives begin to spin out of control. And so does Gary's.

Unlike Nick, Gary knows the difference between right and wrong. Or does he? Beneath the smooth exterior is a lot of resentment. Soon after they meet for mediation, he tells Nick that

he wants to pick up the teapot that stands between them and pour its boiling contents all over him.

Chris O'Connell's biting script is written to be performed at breakneck speed, and the cast don't let him down. Stephen Banks as Gary and Lee Colley as Nick's even more screwed-up mate Jason are exceptional. They deliver fast yet clear and precise bursts of robust street dialogue, honed into something close to poetry.

Mark Babych's taut direction serves the writing well. This is not comfortable theatre, but it is exhilarating and challenging.

Chris Arnot

Till August 29, Box office: 0131-556 6550

The Guardian

British prisons

Rambo's lament

Prisongate: The Shocking State of Britain's Prisons and the Need for Visionary Change.

By David Ramsbotham. *Free Press*; 272 pages; £20

1 GOOD prisons, reformed prisoners,
dedicated prison officers, one honest
head of the prison service and a couple of
decent prison ministers: all existed in the
5 five years up to July 2001 when Sir David
Ramsbotham was the chief inspector of
prisons for England, Wales and Northern
Ireland, and all receive his tribute in this
account of his experiences. But they were
10 the exceptions. The bulk of what this
former general found in the course of his
237 inspections was simply shameful.

2 Inevitably, the horror stories stand out:
the women who have to attend antenatal
15 clinics in chains; the "cells little better
than lavatories"; the 50% of children in
one institution who were released without
knowing where they would spend their
first night of freedom. Tales of bullying,
20 vindictiveness and inhumanity abound.

3 In some ways, though, the most
depressing facts presented are the less
eye-catching ones. Here is an example.
Clinical studies in many countries, reports
25 Sir David, have proved that correct
nutrition is a cheap, humane and highly
effective way of reducing anti-social
behaviour. This was proved yet again in a
trial conducted with over 400 young
30 offenders at an institution in Aylesbury.
Half were given a daily food supplement
containing vitamins, minerals and fatty
acids, and the other half were not. Over
the time of the trial, there was a 37%
35 reduction in serious offences such as
violence in the group taking the
supplement. "The Home Office response
was to insist that its nominated expert
should examine the result. He reported
40 that the data were 92% statistically pure,
an almost unheard of score. However ...
both Home Office and Prison Service

remain obstinately opposed to accepting
the results or adopting the process more
45 widely" – though the cost would be a
mere £3.5m a year from a budget of £2.8
billion.

4 Over and over again, Sir David lays the
blame for the miserable performance of
50 the Prison Service not so much on those at
the bottom of the hierarchy as on those at
the top – the area managers, their
superiors, the top civil servants and, not
least, the ministers. These are the people
55 who have read, or should have read,
report after report, study after study, all
showing that you cannot cut reoffending
rates, let alone suicides, if you cram more
and more prisoners into understaffed jails
60 designed (often 100 years or more ago) to
hold a fraction of their present number
and, more fundamentally, if you refuse to
treat prisoners as human beings. The
upshot is hugely overcrowded prisons
65 which allow fewer and fewer
opportunities for education, exercise or
any other purposeful activity – the
absolute prerequisite for any kind of
rehabilitation and thus for the claim that
70 "prison works".

5 If only it did. The Home Office expects
the prison population to rise to between
91,400 and 109,600 by the end of the
decade, compared with 44,566 ten years
75 ago. Since the cost of one new prison place
is now £100,000, the policy is sure to
involve even more overcrowding, neglect,
degrading treatment – and crime.

6 It would be nice to think that books like
80 Sir David's might help avert this dismal
outcome. All past evidence suggests,
however, that ministers will simply try to
cover up their failures by imposing
meaningless targets and comparing the
85 quality of prisons on the basis of
procedures, not results. And it is a racing
certainty that they will not appoint as
chief inspector another person, let alone a
general, so outspoken in the face of a
90 waste, pointlessness and inhumanity that
seem to come with the job. Too bad – not
least because the Prison Service has lots to
learn from the army, which knows how to
turn immature young men into useful
95 citizens, by building their self-confidence
through education, training and respect. ■

The Economist

Animal behaviour

Fair and square

EVERYBODY loves a fat pay rise. Yet pleasure at your own can vanish if you learn that a colleague has been given a bigger one. Indeed, if he has a reputation for slacking, you might even be outraged. Such behaviour is regarded as “all too human”, with the underlying assumption that other animals would not be capable of this finely developed sense of 28. But a study by Sarah Brosnan and Frans de Waal of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, which has just been published in *Nature*, suggests that it is all too monkey, as well.

The researchers studied the behaviour of female brown capuchin monkeys, which have all the necessary ingredients to capture the public imagination. They look cute. They are good-natured, co-operative creatures, and they share their food readily. 29, like their female human counterparts, they tend to pay much closer attention to the value of “goods and services” than males (although why this is so remains a mystery).

Such characteristics make them perfect candidates for Dr Brosnan’s and Dr de Waal’s study. The researchers spent two years teaching their monkeys to exchange tokens for food. Normally, the monkeys were happy enough to swap pieces of rock for slices of cucumber. However, when two monkeys were placed in separate but adjoining chambers, so that each could observe what the other was getting in return for its rock, their behaviour became markedly different.

In the world of capuchins, grapes are luxury goods (and much preferable to cucumbers). So when one monkey was handed a grape in exchange for her token, the second was 30 to hand hers over for a mere piece of cucumber. And if one received a grape without having to provide her token in exchange at all, the other tossed her own token at the researcher or out of the chamber. Indeed, the mere presence of a grape in the other chamber (in the absence of an actual monkey able to eat it) was enough to arouse 31 behaviour in a female capuchin.

Dr Brosnan and Dr de Waal report that such behaviour is unusual in their trained monkeys. During two years prior to these experiments, failure to exchange tokens for food occurred in fewer than 5% of trials. And what made the behaviour even more 32 was that these monkeys forfeited food that they could see – and which they would have readily accepted in almost any other set of circumstances.

The researchers suggest that capuchin monkeys, like humans, are guided by 33. In the wild, they are a co-operative, group-living species. Such co-operation is likely to be stable only when each animal feels it is not being cheated. Refusing a lesser reward signals feelings of indignation to other members of the group.

So it seems that such feelings are not the preserve of 34 alone. However, whether such a sense of fairness evolved independently in capuchins and humans, or whether it stems from the common ancestor that the species had 35m years ago, is, as yet, an unanswered question.

The Economist

Dangerous Living

To the Editor:

The growing tendency of Americans to take up residence in fragile landscapes – whether forests, mountains, deserts, wetlands or barrier islands – is, or should be, a source of national concern. Their expectation, shared apparently by certain elected politicians, that the rest of us taxpayers should bail them out when disaster strikes or even threatens is, or should be, a national disgrace.

THOMAS J. CAROLAN JR.
Silver Spring, Md.

The New York Times

Star of £38 video takes a pop at sexy rivals

Cassandra Jardine

1 A NEW video is likely to send the music industry into a spin when it is shown on *Top of the Pops* next week. If it looks as if it's been shot on security cameras that's because it has been. The artist – shown shoplifting CDs – didn't bother to comb her hair and refuses to make sexy poses. And, at a time when singers spend £100,000 – “at least” – on a video to promote their single, hers cost just

10 £38.

2 This is the singer/songwriter Thea Gilmore, a middle-class intellectual who is emerging as the pest of the music business. She took over the security cameras at Virgin Megastore in Crewe for two evenings to make the video for her song *Mainstream*. “I don't think I brushed my hair, but I did put on clean jeans,” she says.

3 Her protest is in part against the investment expected of artists – half of which they have to pay back to their record companies. Beyoncé's latest video cost £350,000, but even that pales beside the record £7 million spent by Michael and Janet Jackson on *Scream* in 1995.

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4 But Gilmore's video is also a strike against the way in which the music industry presents its female stars. “Women are invariably sold on sex,” she says. “I'm totally uncomfortable with being asked to pout and it's not right that you walk into a record store and only find beautifully-coiffed women in coquettish poses.”

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5 With long legs and a fine-boned face, she, too, could use her looks to seduce. But, at 23, she hasn't worn a skirt since her schooldays and is ambivalent about the make-up that surrounds her large, green eyes. “You either have to be cute or shout,” she says – and she has chosen the latter.

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6 Her outspokenness comes when she could be on the brink of the big time. *Avalanche*, her fifth album, was released in August and has sold 20,000 copies. Four major record companies are chasing Gilmore, who over the past four years has been described as “the finest singer/songwriter of her generation”. Yet this latest single is a full-frontal attack on the moguls who could make her rich.

45



Gilmore admits to a comfortable middle-class background but says life is easier without money

7 One of her pet hates is record covers of dolly girls. So, for *Mainstream*, she devised a satirical assembly of Barbies posed like a girl band – until the toy company Mattel threatened legal action.

8 Her charges against the business don't stop there. She hates the way marketing dominates artists. She loathes the idea of being told what to sing by record company men and detests the way money is splashed around. “No one needs to spend £300,000 to £400,000 making an album or an advance of £1.2 million,” she says.

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9 Angry though she sounds, her manner is polite and warm. She was born into a liberal intellectual household in Oxfordshire. “We had a nice house in an affluent part of the country,” she admits. “And there was nothing wrong with my parents.”

65

10 Gilmore is not embarrassed by the apparent contradiction of making an album entitled *Stories From the Gutter*. Still, she is torn. She wants people to hear her words, but doesn't want to become another music industry victim. “You could look at bands with lots of money and say that looks easy for them, but it wouldn't be easy for me to surrender control,” she says. “For me it's easier to go through life without cash in my pocket.”

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11 Will she still be saying that in a few years' time?

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The Daily Telegraph

Tekst 10

BLUE IS FOR DANGER



A startling rise in police crashes raises doubts about the risk factor in emergency driving, reports **Simon Potter**

1 **T**hey're loud, highly visible, in a hurry and in your rear-view mirror. They could be police chasing a suspect, paramedics on a life-or-death emergency or firefighters — strikes permitting — racing to a blaze. Three groups united in their need to waste no time. So you try to give them room and trust that they know what they're doing.

2 The police are the most frequent users of the blue-light privilege. But according to Fred Harrison, a Kent police driving instructor: "Blue lights merely serve to say, 'Here I am, please let me through'."

3 All Kent police recruits receive a week's basic driver training after about seven months in the job, including the use of lights and sirens. After the course they are free to drive standard panda cars as part of their duty. They can also "follow" suspect cars, but they cannot "pursue" them — that's the job of officers with more experience and specific training in the skills of pursuit driving.

4 However, something is going horribly wrong, because a record number of people are losing their lives as a result of police pursuits. In 1997-98 the Police Complaints Authority (PCA) dealt with nine deaths from police chases. In 2001-02 there were 44.

5 Police methods of communication, training and risk assessment were all found wanting in a PCA report published in July. David Best, the PCA's head of research, found that officers were engaging in too many pursuits or follows that endangered the public. "There is inadequate risk assessment in many pursuits, resulting in inappropriate decisions taken by

police drivers," he says. "Their discretion to pursue or follow should be reduced and central management of incidents needs to be increased."

6 Little research has been done on pursuit driving safety but a 1997 Home Office study of more than 700 serious injury accidents involving police vehicles found that more than 15% of pursuits were by drivers not trained to the correct level.

7 As well as ambulances and fire engines, others with blue-light privileges include bomb disposal crews, various Ministry of Defence personnel, coastguards and doctors. But there are no standards on how much training they receive before being let loose on "blues and twos".

8 The most worrying area is private ambulance operators. Bob Jackson, chairman of the Blue Light Users' Conference, says: "There's no formal ambulance driving qualification; the law requires only that you hold a licence for the category of vehicle that you're driving."

9 "Driver training is very expensive, and since private ambulance firms operate to make a profit it's easy to understand why some don't want to spend money on training if they don't have to."

10 The Driving Standards Agency has begun to examine a set of minimum training standards for blue-light users, and Jackson says a way must be found of managing that system on a national basis. "It's vital that any training to achieve that standard is carried out by people with the right experience and qualifications."

11 Ben Heatley, of the road safety campaign group Brake, says emergency service journeys are made in highly stressful circumstances. "It's essential that anyone who drives on behalf of the fire brigade, police or ambulance service receives extensive training," he says. "Part of this training should be informing drivers that they should never risk causing a crash in order to get to an emergency quickly."

EMERGENCY DRIVING ESSENTIAL FACTS

☐ Police drivers have exemptions from road traffic regulations, including observing red lights and speed limits, but they can be prosecuted for dangerous or careless driving

☐ Blue light drivers cannot ignore red lights; they must give way to traffic going through on green

☐ If a police car crashes and it is thought there is blame on the officer's part, the decision on legal action rests with the Crown

Prosecution Service, though the case will be sent to a non-local branch to ensure impartiality

☐ Norfolk police sergeant Stephen Askew was convicted of careless driving and fined £500 after being involved in a fatal crash while answering a 999 call

☐ A police officer in Sussex was fined £100 for driving without due care and attention after he seriously injured a boy aged eight on a pedestrian crossing

The Sunday Times

Desperate Characters**Paula Fox***Paperback: Flamingo, £6.99, June*

When Sophie Brentwood feeds a stray cat that keeps appearing in the garden of her Brooklyn home, it bites her hand. She tries to dismiss the incident as a silly accident but is petrified by thoughts of rabies and death. After the bite, strange misfortunes and disasters begin to haunt Sophie and her husband as if it has triggered the unravelling of faults in their lives and the society in which they live. By the author of *Borrowed Finery*, *Desperate Characters* first appeared in the USA. It is widely considered a post-war American classic and its main themes are as relevant and timely today as they were 30 years ago, with the cracking of personal lives a mirror to a more widespread collapse in post-war society. Paula Fox's precise prose and elegant style are stunning and within its small scope this novel contains a crucial knowledge of human relationships that reaches far beyond its pages.

Jenny Berggren,**Waterstone's Oxford Street****Don't Look Back****Karin Fossum***Paperback: Vintage, £5.99, July*

Scandinavian author Karin Fossum's English debut introduces readers to the estimable Inspector Konrad Sejer, a tough and capable policeman. This compelling mystery is set in a small village slumbering under the brooding Kollen Mountain, a seemingly peaceful place where, as in the past, children play innocently in each other's houses and in the streets. When a naked body is discovered at the mountain lake, the village's placidity is irrevocably shattered. What appeared to be a routine case grows increasingly complex and as Sejer's investigation progresses, the village's apparent friendliness and familiarity secede to suspicion and resentment. There is a pleasing cinematic quality to Fossum's prose and, while the plot bears a passing resemblance to Fritz Lang's classic film *M*, it seems also that director David Lynch would have relished her depiction of brooding fear and violence.

Richard Shephard, waterstones.co.uk**Reversible Errors****Scott Turow***Paperback: Pan, £6.99, June*

Scott Turow's intricate and complex plot ebbs and flows between the past and present, focusing on a triple homicide committed 10 years ago. Rommy Gandolph, a minor-league scammer, was convicted of the crime but now, as he lies on his deathbed, new evidence has surfaced. The chief deputy prosecuting attorney is convinced of Gandolph's guilt and, together with the original detective on the case, is determined to see justice done. While trying to ignore the possibility that they may have made mistakes, they renew a steamy 10-year-old affair. Sensitive corporate lawyer Arthur Raven is assigned to represent Gandolph and enlists the help of the original trial judge, who is now disbarred and a recovering drug addict. This is meaty and dramatic storytelling with memorable courtroom duels and utterly believable characters.

Vanessa Rowe, Waterstone's Bristol**The Necropolis Railway****Andrew Martin***Paperback: Faber, £7.99, July*

Jim Stringer, a Yorkshire lad who is fanatical about trains, thinks he's had his lucky break when a gentleman offers him an introduction to the South Western railway. He moves to London and embarks on the perilous journey involved in becoming a railway man of the 'right sort'. Intent on becoming an engine driver, Jim is anxious to rise up through the ranks in this hierarchical world. His colleagues, however, seem far from welcoming and it transpires the only line he'll ever work on leads to a huge cemetery. He soon discovers that in this dark, mysterious world, all is not as it seems. A gripping murder-mystery story evolves in which Andrew Martin transports us back to 1903, evoking a vivid picture of the sights, sounds and smells of London. Whether you're interested in trains or not, you'll be enthralled by what *The Necropolis Railway* holds in store.

Lindsey Russell,**Waterstone's Macclesfield**

The Wrong Doyle

Robert Girardi

Paperback: Sceptre, £7.99

Meet Tim Doyle, mischievous womaniser and descendant of an illustrious line of DoYLES all famed for getting into spectacular scrapes. Following the disintegration of his marriage, Doyle returns to his childhood home to claim his late Uncle Buck's legacy – an island with dilapidated holiday chalets and Buck's pride and joy, his run-down Loopy Golf Course. However, Doyle discovers there are others, desperate to take his land at any price, and a series of bizarre threats ensue, with arson attacks and dead possums playing centre stage. What follows is a brilliantly executed and highly entertaining shaggy-dog story, complete with pirates and treasure maps, not to mention the obligatory tale of corporate and institutionalised corruption. With Girardi's acute historical observation this book conveys the extent to which our lives are inextricably entwined with those of our ancestors, and how we can't escape our past.

Caroline Dominey, Waterstone's Durham

Twelve Step Fandango

Chris Haslam

Paperback: Abacus, £6.99, June

When Martin Brock – a weak, befuddled loser who spends his time dealing drugs on the Costa Del Sol – suddenly finds himself with a motorbike and 5 kilos of coke, he thinks he has hit the jackpot. What he didn't bargain for was three very persistent French gangsters, a couple of Irish mobsters and the betrayal of his albatross-of-a-girlfriend. His sudden introduction to a world where no-one can be trusted (or is that just his paranoia?) has him running all over Andalucia in constant fear for his life and as intent on correcting bad English as he is on scoring the next hit. Chris Haslam has written a fast-moving roller-coaster of a 'trip' that has you hanging on to your insides and reading more hilarious descriptions of pain and drug dependency than you may have thought possible. Very funny, smart and a little dangerous.

Vincent Cassar, Waterstone's Bristol

Waterstone's Books Quarterly

Einde