2007

tijdvak 2

Engels

Tekstboekje

Finding our feet

If there is one thing that ought to need no intervention by the government it is getting people to walk more. It should be self-evident. Walking is enjoyable in itself and it is well proven that moderate exercise reduces the risk of obesity, stress, heart disease, strokes and other illnesses. And if that isn't _____, then the prospect of avoiding traffic congestion, pollution, towering petrol taxes, parking problems and high train fares ought to be. 2 , this is not the case. As the Department for Transport's action plan, Walking and Cycling, pointed out last week, walking trips - other than for recreational purposes - have been in decline for 20 years. It would not take much to reverse it – just walking 1.25 miles a week more on average – but there is no sign of revival.

The chief medical officer urges us to take at least 30 minutes of physical

activity of moderate intensity on at least five days a week. It doesn't have to be walking: anything from cycling to housework would do. But cycling without proper uninterrupted cycle lanes can be dangerous and not everyone can afford a health club. Walking is easy and more sociable than other forms of exercise. Many would be surprised what little 3 they lose by walking part of the way to work rather than taking a bus or train once all the delays have been factored in.

There are lots of things the authorities can do nationally and locally, such as improving pavements, creating more safe routes to schools and making more traffic-free areas. With obesity costing the country approaching £10bn a year, putting the country back on its feet would be _4_. It is the nearest thing politicians will get to a free lunch.

The Guardian

What he saw

Dark forces threaten Britain's butlers

AGOOD butler needs many qualities. But above even the ability to starch a napkin, or to cut a cucumber sandwich, are "loyalty, respect and discretion", according to Robert Wennekes, chairman of the profession's international guild. Now Britain's reputation for producing the best butlers is shrivelling thanks to its currently most famous practitioner, Paul Burrell.

Once butler to Diana, Princess of Wales, Mr Burrell has made a lot of money selling a tabloid newspaper an



Butlers' tales: interesting if true

account of her private life, complete with scandalous titbits, some of them not necessarily true. He elaborated them in a book published this week. Even worse for Mr Burrell's claim to fame, it now turns out that his book is not based, as claimed at first, wholly on letters swiped from his employers, but also on his memories and notes.

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Just so much trivia, then? Not if butlering is your livelihood. John Thomas, who runs a training outfit for British butlers, calls Mr Burrell "absolutely diabolical". Mr Wennekes's International Butler Academy in the Netherlands once asked him to give out prizes. He will not be invited back. Butler academies and guilds have received angry letters from the public reflecting disgust at Mr Burrell's treachery.

4 But hold the disapproving hisses a moment. Scandal-mongering by British domestic servants has a long and dishonourable tradition. Prince Charles's valet of 12 years, Stephen Barry, wrote two insider accounts, published in America. The queen's own nanny, Marion Crawford, wrote an unauthorised book in the 1950s about royal nursery life.

Like British nannies, another profession that has had brushes with scandal, the butlers' brand will recover. The American Academy of Hospitality Sciences (yes, really) says that the British accent is particularly sought after in New York. But confidentiality clauses do feature in the job contracts.

The Economist

The beauty of wind farms

David Suzuki

- OFF the coast of British Columbia in Canada is an island called Quadra, where I have a cabin that is as close to my heart as you can imagine. From my porch on a good day you can see clear across the waters of Georgia Strait to the snowy peaks of the rugged Coast Mountains. It is one of the most beautiful views I have seen. And I would gladly share it with a wind farm.
- However, sometimes it seems like I'm in the minority. All across Europe and North America, environmentalists are locking horns with the wind industry over the location of wind farms. In Alberta, one group is opposing a planned wind farm near Cypress Hills Provincial Park, claiming it would destroy views of the park and disturb some of the last remaining native prairie in the province. In the UK more than 100 national and local groups, led by some of the country's most prominent environmentalists, have argued that wind power is inefficient, destroys the ambience of the countryside and makes little difference to carbon emissions.
- It is time for some perspective. With the growing urgency of climate change, we cannot have it both ways. We cannot shout from the rooftops about the dangers of global warming and then turn around and shout even louder about the "dangers" of windmills. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges humanity will face this century. It cannot be solved through good intentions. It will take a radical change in the way we produce and consume energy another industrial revolution, this time for clean energy, conservation and efficiency.
- We have undergone such transformations before and we can do it again. But first we must accept that all forms of energy have associated costs. Fossil fuels are limited in quantity and create vast amounts of pollution. Large-scale hydroelectric power floods valleys and destroys animal habitat. Nuclear power is terribly expensive and creates radioactive waste.
- Wind power also has its downsides. It is highly visible and can kill birds. The fact is, though, that any man-made structure can kill birds houses, radio towers, skyscrapers. In Toronto alone, it is estimated that 10,000 birds collide with the city's tallest buildings every year. Compared with this, the risk to birds from well-sited wind farms is very low.
- Even at Altamont Pass in California, where 7000 turbines were erected on a migratory route, only 0.2 birds per turbine per year have been killed. Indeed, the real risk to birds comes not from windmills but from a changing climate, which threatens the very existence of bird species and their habitats. This is not to say that wind farms should be allowed to spring up anywhere. They should always be subject to environmental impact assessments. But a "not in my backyard" approach is hypocritical and counterproductive.
- Are windmills ugly? I remember when Mostafa Tolba, executive director of the United Nations Environment Programme from 1976 to 1992, told me how when he was growing up in Egypt, smokestacks belching out smoke were considered signs of progress. Even as an adult concerned about pollution, it took him a long time to get over the instinctive pride he felt when he saw a tower pouring out clouds of smoke.

- 8 We see beauty through filters shaped by our values and beliefs. Some people think wind turbines are ugly. I think smokestacks, smog, acid rain, coal-fired power plants and climate change are ugly. I think windmills are beautiful.
- 9 And if one day I look out from my cabin's porch and see a row of windmills spinning in the distance, I won't curse them. I will praise them. It will mean we are finally getting somewhere.

www.newscientist.com

Tekst 4

Celebrities sign up for magazine to tackle UK's health crisis

THE SINGER Ms Dynamite will tomorrow unveil the Government's latest weapon in the war on junk food diets and binge drinking: a *Hello!*-style glossy magazine.

The failure of traditional education campaigns to persuade thousands of women to adopt healthier lifestyles has prompted a change of approach at the Department of Health, which fears that nagging the nation into changing its behaviour may backfire. 16, the magazine – to be given away in newsagents, gyms and cinemas – will aim to lure women readers with celebrity-led features, from former boxer Chris Eubank's parenting tips to an analysis of Hollywood diet crazes and Ms Dynamite's views on motherhood. It will also include government advice on issues such as giving up smoking.

The Observer

Programmed to bully

- 1 New research claims that 'Four-year-old children who watch more television than average are more likely to become bullies'. The research team, led by Dr Frederick Zimmerman, has added bullying to the list of potential negative consequences of excessive television viewing along with obesity, inattention and other types of aggression.
- What the news reports have failed to mention, in their rush to blame TV for yet another social problem, is that the effect found was so small as to be barely significant. The researchers note: 'Each hour of television viewed per day at age 4 years was associated with a significant odds ratio of 1.06 for subsequent bullying.' In other words, children who watched TV for one hour a day more had a six per cent increased risk of being 'a bully'.
- But there are plenty of other problems with this research. All the reporting is done by mothers, so what one mother considers to be bullying behaviour might be another mother's friendly horseplay. In fact, it must be extremely difficult to define what 'a bully' is for such a report. Does it mean violent behaviour? Would organising classmates to exclude a particular individual constitute bullying? Would someone who exhibits this behaviour at the age of six, but not at the age of eleven, fall into the category of a 'bully' for the purposes of this research?
- 4 Moreover, if there really is a link with bullying here, it has little to do with television as such. For example, watching television is a very passive activity. While not harmful in itself, it's a poor substitute for the social and intellectual engagement involved in play. Opportunities for free play are becoming increasingly restricted by parental fears. If some children then take longer to learn what is appropriate behaviour and what is not, that is hardly the fault of television but of the wider environment in which they grow up today.
- 5 That said, this particular research report also suggests a complete lack of historical perspective. Children have been picking on other children since time immemorial and certainly a long time before the gogglebox was invented. Whether the amount of bullying going on is on the increase is surely impossible to know. However, we live in an age where the feeling of being a lonely, picked-upon individual is very fashionable. No wonder there's money to research bullying.
- 6 Television may be the source of innumerable bad programmes, but the evidence that it is responsible for society's ills is thin. Maybe it's time to pull the plug on this kind of research.

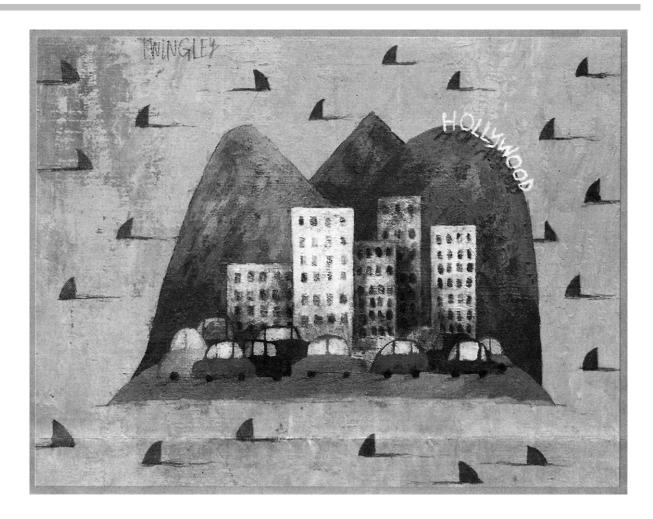
www.spiked-online.com

The new tobacco

There were familiar echoes in yesterday's report of the Commons select committee's latest inquiry into dangerous products. The industry denied its products were dangerous, insisted advertising did not increase consumption but merely redistributed spending between brands, and declared an advertising ban would not decrease purchases. No, this was not a new inquiry into tobacco advertising, which is finally banned now - a ban that should shortly produce a fall in consumption like earlier bans in other developed states did. It was a new inquiry into junk food.

In both the US and the UK obesity is beginning to eclipse tobacco as the number one threat to public health. Earlier this week the Food Standards Agency (FSA) launched a new debate, noting that obesity in six-year-olds has doubled in the last decade and has trebled among 15-year-olds. Several studies have already found a clear link between the amount of television watched and diet, obesity and cholesterol levels. Let the research continue, but Sweden has already moved to ban advertising on children's television.

The Guardian



Biting back

Just because great white sharks are protected doesn't mean we should be on their menu.

By Wade Graham

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REAT WHITE SHARKS apparently are making a comeback along the Southern California coast.

That's excellent news for the protected great whites, but unsettling for the millions of Californians who work and play in the Pacific.

As an environmentalist and a surfer who believes in protecting wild land and wild animals, including big predators that can harm humans, I'm 24 our approach to great whites. An

extreme and, I believe, confused notion of wilderness is in play here. In 15 Southern California, where our neighborhoods push deeper and deeper into the wild geography of mountains and canyons, we are accustomed to 20 covotes, bears and mountain lions coming into our streets and yards. But we nevertheless police this boundary. We don't accept that mountain lions or bears should come onto our lawn and attack one of us. Animals that do so are 25 moved, sometimes killed, without

endangering the survival of the species or the stability of the ecosystem.

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That doesn't happen with great whites. In 2003, an angler on the Hermosa Pier caught a juvenile white shark. Thinking it was a mako shark (of which you are allowed to catch two per day) he kept it. But he was fined and ordered to do community service. A great white that killed a woman swimming off Avila Beach two years ago was seen several times in the following weeks hunting seals just off the beach. The little resort town watched the summer season it depends on go up in smoke, as visitors stayed away in droves. As a protected species, the shark could not be harmed.

Until recently, great whites found south of Point Conception were considered strays from their primary hunting grounds, the seal colonies of Northern California. An increase in Southern California sightings began in 2003. However, the swelling number of sightings could be sampling error: More people go into the water every year. Scientists urge caution in jumping to conclusions, saving the reported increase in sightings doesn't prove conclusively that white shark numbers are rising. Yet they acknowledge that mysteries remain about these animals, including where they breed, give birth and feed when the seals leave their colonies for the

Young sharks probably pose little danger to people. Their teeth are

needle-like and close-set, adapted to hold fish, not tear into large animals. But as the sharks grow past 10 feet, they develop bigger, wider teeth, set farther apart, to allow them to eat seals, small whales and other mammals. These developing sharks are the most agile and aggressive - and may be more dangerous than larger adults. Worldwide, just 27% of white sharks that bite people are longer than 15 feet, while 50% are between 10 and 15 feet. It is extremely cold comfort to know that if bitten by a smaller shark, your likelihood of dying is 22%, versus 45% if your assailant is a large adult.

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Clearly, sharks and people need to be carefully managed. But only the sharks have protection, under a California law that took effect in 1994. That law made sense at the time. The 1975 movie "Jaws" and a dozen years of sequels sent more sportfishing boats after big sharks for thrills. Today, as seals, the sharks' primary food, thrive along the coast as a protected species, no one knows if the great whites are indeed endangered.

Knowing more about the shark is vital. We should demand funding for the science required to make the right decisions. And we should end the blanket protection offered these animals when they turn up near our beaches. Sharks that menace or attack people should be managed in the same way as problem bears and mountain lions: captured and relocated if possible, or killed if necessary.

Los Angeles Times

The American eating disorder

Sir, If the American voting public is comfortable with consuming agricultural products that have not yet been fully tested for long-term effects (Letters, May 19), then they should go ahead and do so. We are all told North America is a huge and deep market, and so should be sufficiently large to satisfy the entrepreneurial requirements of North American biotech businesses.

Neither the European voting public nor its scientists are yet satisfied with the safety of biotech products. So why don't the Americans stop trying to ram them down our throats and satisfy themselves with the home market in the knowledge that their antiquated cousins across the Atlantic are missing out on something special; we Europeans would not mind.

Graham Cheshire L-6950 Luxembourg

The Financial Times

Battered and bruised – by the city

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By Alice Callaghan

- A PERVASIVE FEAR occupies the corners of Los Angeles' skid row1), where it seems the homeless are everywhere, heaps of human despair sleeping in doorways and on the public sidewalks. However, it is not men wielding baseball bats, as happened last week, leaving one man near death, that frightens the poor of skid row. Using the bat assault as an excuse, police and private security guards have escalated efforts to clear the area, ordering the homeless to move off city sidewalks for their own good. The two 19-year-olds allegedly responsible for the beating are in custody, probably in the same jail that houses the homeless who are arrested for the high crime of being
- 2 For more than a year now, police have been enforcing a law against sitting, sleeping or lying on public sidewalks. Security guards hired by property owners order people off public sidewalks and take the belongings of the homeless when they go inside a mission to eat. It is, the guards insist, abandoned property. The homeless must choose between losing their precious belongings and eating. Street maintenance workers, in violation of city policy, remove the belongings of the homeless, insisting that backpacks and rolled-up bedding stashed against a wall are abandoned. Shopping carts laden with belongings are dumped in the street and scooped into city trucks for disposal.

- A self-appointed action group walks the row once a month to "take back the streets." The marchers hand out leaflets that promote drug and alcohol recovery programs and list shelters for the homeless, as though warm, safe beds await all who choose to take advantage of the city's generosity.
 - If a shelter does have empty beds, it says more about the shelter than about the person who refuses to sleep there. In fact, few beds are available on any given night. There may be an appearance of a lot of space, but most shelter beds in skid row have been designated for use in long-term programs. The police can lean on a shelter on a particular night to take in one or two more people, but that doesn't begin to meet the need.
 - Every affordable permanent housing unit on skid row has a waiting list. A shabby hotel in the downtown area rents for upward of \$750 a month. The monthly general relief payment to this city's poorest is \$223. Even if skid row residents found employment at minimum wage, they still would not be able to afford housing.
 - Two men wielding baseball bats are not nearly as frightening as a city that fails to address the serious lack of affordable housing for its poorest and most vulnerable.
 - ALICE CALLAGHAN directs Las Familias del Pueblo, a nonprofit community center in downtown Los Angeles.

Los Angeles Times

noot 1 skid row: the poorest part of town, where homeless people live

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Misstep on video violence

Today's debate: Minors and video games

In the booming world of video games, there are more than a few dark corners: Murder and chaos. Blood and slaughter. Explicit sex and abuse of women.

Small wonder some parents are concerned over what game-crazed teens may be up to. And small wonder, too, that legislators in several states are playing to these concerns by trying to outlaw the sale of violent and sexually explicit games to minors.

But to what useful end? This is the latest chapter in a very old story. When teenage entertainment offends adult sensibilities — think Elvis Presley's pulsating hips — the first response is to see the new phenomenon as a threat to social order. The second is to attempt to ban it. Parents — former teenagers all — seem to forget history's lesson: The bans never work.

And they're probably not constitutional, anyway. Courts have ruled that today's sophisticated video games are protected as creative expression.

<u>38</u> if communities want to limit access, they must show overriding evidence that the games pose a public threat. That evidence does not exist.

Lawmakers and activist groups claim that the thrill of engaging in virtual criminal activity will spur teens to try the real thing. But the violent crime rate has gone down 40 nearly 30% since the first bloody shoot-'em-up games debuted in the early 1990s. Youth crime rates have dropped even more. And a Federal Trade Commission survey
 45 found parents already involved in 83% of video-game purchases and rentals for minors.

Judges have repeatedly rejected the studies that, according to advocates, show a link between fantasy violence and anti-social behavior.

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To the extent there is a threat, it is mainly to the individual, vulnerable teenager, and it can be addressed only by parents.

And they're getting some help. The game industry's rating system classifies games in six categories from "early childhood" to "adults only". Also, newer models of popular games include parental controls that can block their use for age-inappropriate games. And major retailers are tightening their restrictions on sales to minors.

There will always be a market for the dark, tasteless, even the outrageous, and parents ought to keep kids away from it. But even with the best intentions of legislators, the problem is beyond their reach.

New laws are likely to give parents only the false impression that someone else is solving that problem for them.

USA Today

Lees bij de volgende teksten steeds eerst de vraag voordat je de tekst zelf raadpleegt.

Tekst 11 JUST FOR STARTERS



Hollywood abhors a vacuum. If it can't restrain itself from remaking untouchable classics such as Orson Welles' 1942 film The Magnificent Ambersons (redone, badly, for TV recently), why should we expect it to leave alone **Red Dragon**, Thomas Harris's first Hannibal Lecter novel that formed the basis for Michael Mann's faithful and well-regarded 1986 movie Manhunter? After all, Manhunter didn't have Anthony Hopkins in it as Lecter, and there's a lucrative franchise to milk, post Silence Of The Lambs and Hannibal.

Despite all that, it's a rather pleasant surprise to find Red Dragon isn't anywhere near the cynical exercise in greed one might expect – or at least no more of one than the atrocious book and film of Hannibal. Red Dragon is arguably the best of the novels, and this movie version deftly and relatively unfussily translates its core assets for the screen: its compelling, forensically-focused detection story, and the clammy relationship between Hannibal and the FBI agent Will Graham (Edward Norton, above) who first captures and then coaxes Lecter into helping him catch another serial killer. This one specialises in slaying families.

Director Brett Ratner (Rush Hour) directs with unfussy skill, with less of the ego that Michael Mann brought to

Manhunter. It all evaporates from memory hours after you see it but, at the time, Red Dragon is a jaunty little ride.

Apart from the re-releases, I can't say the same about the other films out this week. Neither of them is actually very long. although I feel that, more than smoking, having watched them has shortened my life somewhat. Club De Monde is a BritCom obviously made on a tiny budget, bless its heart, set during one night in one club in 1993. I rather liked director Simon Rumley's last film, The Truth Game, which confined itself to a dinner party. But by quadrupling, give or take a multiple, the cast, he's vastly diminished the quality of the performances, despite occasional flashes of finery, such as the amusing scenes featuring two coked-up giggling girlfriends who never leave the toilets all night. And when will filmmakers learn that clubbing, like someone else's good or bad trip, is more interesting experienced than recounted and, more often than not, a poor vehicle for drama.

There's much narrative momentum to be had out of hotels, and vet it's also a fertile field for bad movies: see The Million Dollar Hotel, Mike Figgis' recent Hotel, and now Villa Des Roses, a bloated Europudding set before the First World War about a bunch of would-be wacky characters who populate a decrepit Parisian boarding house. Julie Delpy as a chambermaid done wrong by a roguish German artist (Shaun Dingwall) and Shirley Henderson as her salty cook friend just about make the film endurable, but it's so dull that it's like the cinematic equivalent of a tax-exemption form, which one rather suspects was the motivation for making it.

The Big Issue

The beginning of the Nazis' end

D-Day was a huge gamble: had the Allies been pushed back, the shape of the 20th century would have been quite different. Several new books published to celebrate the 60th anniversary re-examine the heroism and sacrifice

THE D-DAY COMPANION

Edited by Jane Penrose Osprey £20, pp288

D-DAY

By Martin Gilbert Wiley £13.99, pp220

D-DAY: THE FIRST 72 HOURS

By William Buckingham

Tempus, pp312

THE D-DAY ATLAS
By Charles Messenger

Thames and Hudson £22.50, pp176

THE BEDFORD BOYS

By Alex Kershaw

Pocket Books £7.99, pp300

D-DAY: NORMANDY REVISITED

by Richard Bougaardt Chaucer Press £20, pp192

ABOVE THE BATTLE: D-DAY THE LOST

EVIDENCE

by Chris Going & Alun Jones

Crecy £14.95, pp144

The 60th anniversary of D-Day has unleashed a spate of books the likes of which we are unlikely to see again. Best of the bunch is **The D-Day**

Companion, in which a group of top military historians from Britain and the US write on leadership, logistics and the importance of the intelligence war.

Strong leadership was vital to the success of D-Day, Churchill and Roosevelt providing the political framework, Eisenhower and Montgomery the military strategy. As a combined Anglo-American operation D-Day was the crown jewel in the special relationship and however history judges more recent Anglo-American military ventures, D-Day was vital to the preservation of the free world. There was a hell of a lot to play for on 6 June 1944.



Martin Gilbert's **D-Day** is a short book on a big subject. So key moments become a few sentences. Gilbert is good on the years of planning and on the deception. The Allies hid the planning of the invasion from the Germans and deceived them that Normandy was a feint and that the real invasion would follow later in the Pas de Calais. Huge numbers of dummy trucks and tanks with a vast amount of radio 'noise' made the Germans believe there was an entire US Army Group in south-east England. Another 'pretend' Army was invented in Edinburgh posed to invade Norway. Double agents fed wrong information to the German high command. We'll never know how many lives this saved but it tied down 27 German divisions in Norway and half a million German soldiers in north-east France.

Twenty days after D-Day, Hitler still believed the real invasion was coming in the Pas de Calais. This was the finest hour in the art of strategic deception. But Gilbert is less good on the technology that helped turn the battle.

On the other hand, **D-Day: The first 72 Hours** by William Buckingham revels in a mass of wonderful detail about the weapons, the machines and the men that fought on D-Day, helping to make this a compelling narrative. Buckingham offers an alternative view to the usual concentration on the horror of the American landings on Omaha beach, immortalised by Steven Spielberg in the opening 20 minutes of Saving Private Ryan. Buckingham argues that the Brits on Gold beach came up against even tougher opposition than on Omaha but because the Americans had hastily reorganised smaller units into mixed assault platoons they lost the cohesion and the bonds that years of training had built up between men. Along with this, the better British use of armour made their success look too easy by comparison to the American mauling on Omaha.

The D-Day Atlas by Charles Messenger contains some magnificent, very clear maps. Unfortunately, it is marred by the poor quality of reproduction of its photographs and by a laboured text. Messenger's battle descriptions are dry and without colour.

Like the British army in the First
World War, some American units on DDay were recruited from particular towns
in the US. During the Battle of the
Somme whole towns went into mourning
as their local boys were killed in the first
wave of a futile attack. So the tiny town of
Bedford in Virginia lost 19 of its sons who
made up the first assault company on

Omaha beach in the early morning of 6 June. In **The Bedford Boys**, Alex Kershaw follows the lives of a group of Bedford men through the Depression years and into the National Guard, and then into a single company of the 116th Regiment of the 29th Division. It's a poignant story that humanises the D-Day sacrifice.

Two books of photographs are part of the mix. In **D-Day: Normandy Revisited** a young photographer, Richard Bougaardt, visits the Normandy beaches. The book is based on a simple but effective idea of contrasting the tranquility of the landscape today in Bougaardt's black and white photographs, with archive stills from 1944. Battlefields can be haunting places to visit, instructive for students of military history and highly emotional to the general visitor, especially when dotted with military cemeteries, as is Normandy. This simple book does justice to its epic subject.

And in **Above the Battle: D-Day the Lost Evidence** Chris Going and
Alun Jones offer a new angle by analysing
the mass of aerial photographs taken on 6
June to focus on key engagements that
shaped the day.

The real meaning of D-Day lies in the military victory that followed the invasion of June 1944. It was the success of D-Day and the battle for Normandy that made Allied victory in The Second World War certain.

The Observer