



Nine good books for New Year reading

William Hague on William Pitt: Clarissa Dickson Wright and Johnny Scott on game cooking; Stephen Armitage-Green on chickens; Hugh Johnson on himself; and Mr and Mrs Smith on everywhere

Wine: A Life Uncorked

By Hugh Johnson
Weidenfeld & Nicolson (London)
Hardback, 384pp
Hugh Johnson has a fine reputation



as a passionate admirer of wine, and one of its best communicators. His autobiography is beautifully written, flowing like an unassuming vintage from one topic to another on a pleasurable and informative journey. He thinks of wines as friends, old and new. For all who love wine, this enjoyable book will itself become a much loved old friend. Code HJ01 OP02. RRP £20. CCUK £15.50.



Stephen Green-Armitage has produced two inspired books on poultry, *Extraordinary Chickens* and *Extra Extraordinary Chickens*. He covers almost every breed and feather pattern imaginable, his subjects all posing happily, prettily and often humorously for the camera. They are all here, from Wyandottes to Silver-spangled Hamburgs, Cochins and Cuckoo Brahams, and of course Old English Game. Together these books make excellent additions to the coffee-table, and superb gifts. Code EC01 AB01. RRP £28.90. CCUK £25.35.

William Pitt the Younger

By William Hague
HarperCollins (London)
Hardback, 600pp
William Hague's acclaimed biography is a fascinating, straightforward account of a man of unusual integrity, independence and skill who, 'so aligned his life with the fate of his country that at no moment of his ex-



istence could he separate himself from it.' Hague provides a fresh perspective to the tumultuous period when Pitt was in office (with light-hearted snippets on Marie Antoinette, and King George III shaking hands with a tree in the belief that it was the King of Prussia). The story benefits from being told by a fellow youthful Minister, now poised to return to the political fray. Code WP 01 HC02. RRP £25. CCUK £22.50.



This season's must-have tome—*This Little Piggy Went to Prada*—is gorgeously illustrated and packed with 21 name-dropping nursery rhymes for the Nahuatl brigade. It is politically incorrect (hurray!), utterly frivolous, and loads of fun. Gems include 'Punycat, pussycat, where have you been? I have been to London to visit

McQueen', and a new take on Pat-a-Cake involving 'pop-a-cork' Champagne. This *This Little Piggy* will keep Mother Christmas chortling on Christmas Eve—but hurry, or it will be handbags at dawn! Code PP01 SP03. RRP £14.45. CCUK £11.50.

The Game Cookbook

By Clarissa Dickson Wright and Johnny Scott
Kyle Cathie (London)

This landmark cookbook is a passionate country cook's guide. It is more than a recipe book; it's a reassuring guide on how to produce a wide range of dishes in con-

ditions where you may not have the usual travel kit in mind, with some stylish hotels in the UK/Ireland. Code MS01 SP03. RRP £9.99. CCUK £8.

Mr & Mrs Smith Hotel Collection: UK/Ireland

Spax Publishing (London)
Softcover, 297pp, full-colour

Who says you can't travel in style? This annual travel guide is a stylish advice by the likes

THIS LITTLE PIGGY WENT TO PRADA

vinced with anecdotes and information from Johnny Scott about the history and habitat of game. Mouth-watering recipes such as Quail Thosalia, Potted Grosbeak, and the more exotic Caribou Pot Roast are illustrated with stunning photographs, paintings and cartoons. Code MS01 KC03. RRP £9.99. CCUK £8.



Asterix and the Falling Sky

By Albert Uderzo
Orion (London)
Hardback, 48pp, full-colour
The first new Asterix story for four years has been cap-

tured with stunning photographs, paintings and cartoons. Code MS01 KC03. RRP £9.99. CCUK £8.

Mr & Mrs Smith Hotel Collection: France

Spax Publishing (London)
Softcover, 297pp, full-colour

Who says you can't travel in style? This annual travel guide is a stylish advice by the likes of some of the most famous in Paris, Venice and Rome. It's a good, practical advice, interspersed with light-hearted translations of surprising phrases including, 'No, I have not stolen your dressing gown', and, 'Please will you call off your violin player.' Great fun. Code MS02 SP03. RRP £8.45. CCUK £22.76.

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