

AVAST YE LANDLUBBERS

Pirates by John Matthews is an interesting pictorial tale of the history of pirates, their ships and flags, pirate lore and life on board, from their strict code of conduct to the terrible punishments to those that broke the rules.



Learn about the daredevil exploits of those pirates who have passed into folklore as one reads of the daring raids on the seas or land and discover the reality of pirate life on board a ship.

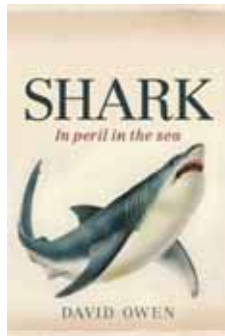
From riches to death, the rewards of success or failure are detailed, including a gallery of history of some of the period's most famous pirates, many of them women, which all makes for an interesting read.

The book will find favour with the young ones who are doing projects or just want to escape in the world of pirate folklore and dream.

Published by Allen & Unwin, at the price of \$17.99 this book is a steal and one that won't look out of place in a seafarer's library or on the coffee table.

SHARK: IN PERIL IN THE SEA

Many people have a morbid fascination with and or the dread of, sharks. This book, by David Owen, takes a compelling look at why.



The shark has been our planet's most dominant predator for millions of years. But human activity, and falling victim of overfishing, pollution and the destruction of their marine habitats have threatened all sharks in less than half a century.

Shark: In peril in the sea sets about to comprehensively overturn our negative and damaging perception of sharks. It provides some commonsense information about shark attacks, sorting the myth from fact in an effort to give the reader an understanding of sharks in a clear, jargon free, writing style.

The book reveals the shark's extremely unusual biology, from their sixth sense, to their astonishing and feared sets of teeth. It tells you everything one needs to know about these sophisticated guardians of our oceans. Big, small, scary and harmless, this

book stands up for the sharks!

Published by Allen & Unwin, *Shark* is available at all leading book stockist with a RRP: \$39.99

DRAWN FROM EXPERIENCE

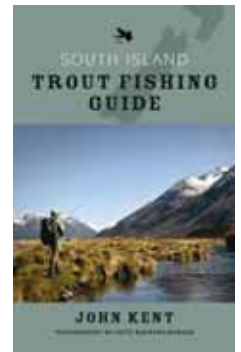
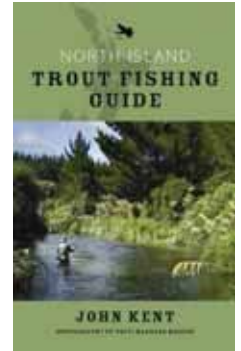
North Island: Trout Fishing Guide and its mate the *South Island: Trout Fishing Guide*, published by Penguin Books (NZ) are now available from all leading book stockists and sports shops, with a RRP of \$35 each.

Drawing on over 60 years of experience fishing New Zealand's back country lakes and rivers, author John Kent has created an unparalleled, practical guide, suitable for both local and visiting anglers alike.

The books cover more than 60 lakes, dams and 320 streams in the North Island while the South Island edition covers more than 400 rivers and 150 lakes all of which are fully described in these matching guides, along with up-to-date information on location, access, fishing season and bag limits.

Both guides detail the best techniques and flies to use for successful fishing. The books are supported with maps and images, with the photography by Patti Magnano Madsen in both colour and black and white format.

Ideally suited for the adventurer freshwater fisher, these books give a nice introduction and overview of potential trout fishing opportunities in New Zealand.



THE GREAT WARMING

In this book Brian Fagan compares the warming of AD 800 to 1300 (the medieval warming) with the current warming and points out the consequences that occurred in the medieval warming. The cost to medieval civilizations was catastrophic due to an increase in severe weather events and, too mention but a few, the Mayan, Angkor Wat and Khmer civilisations failed as droughts and floods made their existence impossible.

However, as he points out, this allowed the Polynesian expansion across the South Pacific and the invasion of Europe by Genghis Khan. Okay, I am a bit of a global warming sceptic and here is a hard fact, if the world, including China, manage to reduce carbon emissions to Copenhagen levels we will still increase global carbon by 20 percent due to Chinese economic growth by 2025 and Fagan's warning of the end of civilisation does not wash but he has a point we need to be aware of.

Extreme climatic events are probable. Chillingly, he says droughts "... an insidious killer associated with global warming" will become commonplace. This book is a warning not about global warming but about our ability to respond to the disasters our changing climate will inflict. I recommend this book and the author's ability to place the reader in the environment of the medieval warming is a great technique. Publisher, Allen & Unwin, RRP: \$35. (Reviewed by H Stewart.)



GOT OLD, UNLOVED MARITIME BOOKS GATHERING DUST?

Professional Skipper is looking for unwanted books featuring all aspects of New Zealand's maritime history, from shipping to fishing to the waterfront, to add to our growing in-house reference library.

CONTACT: The Editor, Keith Ingram
Professional Skipper, 4 Prince Regent Drive
 Half Moon Bay, Manukau City 2012

PHONE 09 533 4336
 email: keith@skipper.co.nz