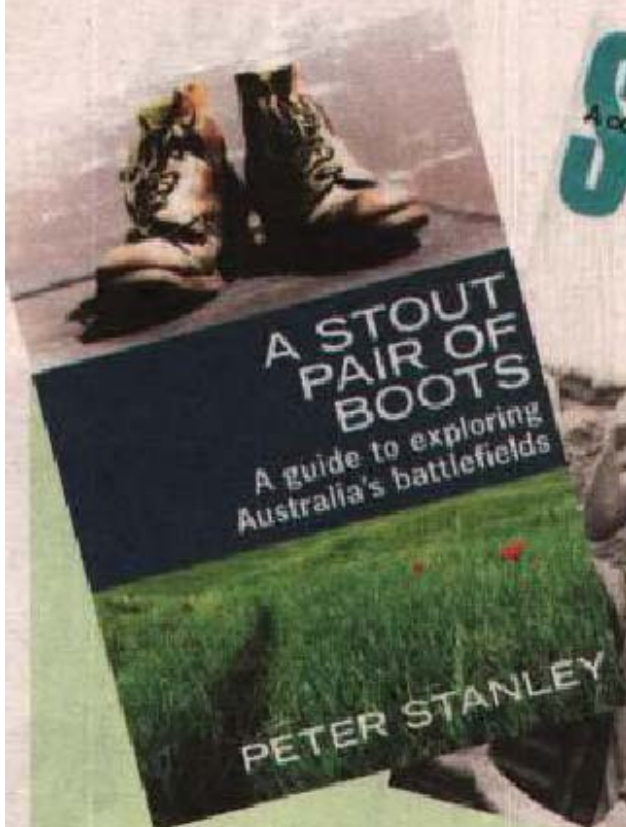
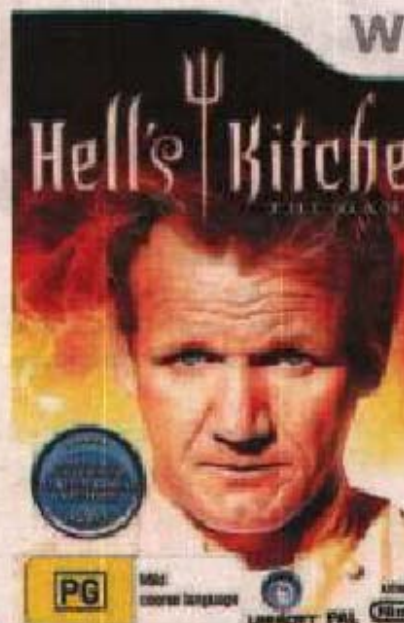


Books

There is plenty on offer for bibliophiles this festive season



LIVING HISTORY IN MODERN TIMES

A series of World War I anniversaries during the past few years has raised the feeling of nationalism in Australia and led to a flood of war-related books. Two of the newest are *A Stout Pair of Boots*, by Peter Stanley (Allen & Unwin, \$24.95), and *Soldiers' Tales*, edited by Denny Neave (Big Sky Publishing, \$19.95).

Stanley was principal historian at the Australian War Memorial and is now director of the Centre for Historical Research at the National Museum of Australia. There is probably no better person to have put together a guide to exploring Australia's battlefields. It outlines how to research the history of the chosen battlefield before departure, lists battlefields to visit and gives practical advice about getting there and visiting safely.

Some of the tales Neave has recorded are only 50-odd words long and some cover pages, but through the majority runs a characteristic thread of larrikin humour. Burma, Crete, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq... there is a story to tell about them all.