

STORY WITH ECK FACTOR

THE HOPELESS LIFE OF CHARLIE SUMMERS

by Paul Torday (Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £12.99)

HAVING left the army under a cloud after a terrifying incident in Afghanistan, Eck's struggling with the morality of his new career in investments and fears his boss Bilbo Mountwilliam is playing fast and loose with clients' money.

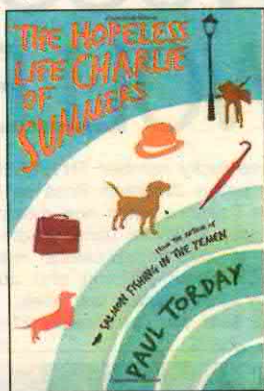
Then there's Harriet, the widow of his late best chum, and the object of Eck's desires, but when's the earliest you can make a move without causing offence?

Add to this Charlie Summers, a fly-by-night conman who's turned up on his doorstep with a harebrained scheme to flog Japanese dog food door-to-door.

Aside from coming up with wonderfully inventive names for his characters, Torday is a master at weaving delightfully nutty storylines while at the same time retaining a prevailing air of menace.

The Salmon Fishing in the Yemen author is now achieving "must-read" status.

You're in for an Eck of good time. ★★ ★★



DIVORCE CONFIDENTIAL

by Gerald Nissenbaum (Ebury, £11.99)

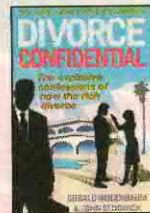
GERALD Nissenbaum has been a divorce lawyer to some of America's richest clients.

For 40 years, he has worked for incredibly powerful people when they are trying to screw over the person they once loved. Some of the stories are hilariously funny but others show the lengths parents go to in order to win custody of their kids.

From murder and attempted kidnappings to false accusations of child pornography and bestiality, Nissenbaum has seen it all.

Cleverly written in the style of a 1930s New York detective, this is definitely worth a read.

Be warned though... it could put you off marriage for life. ★★ ★



90 DAY GEISHA

by Chelsea Haywood (Mainstream Publishing, £7.99)

NEWCOMER Chelsea Haywood went to Japan to work as a hostess for 90 days with the express intention of writing this book.

Hostesses provide late-night conversation and drinking partners for high-flying Japanese men, receiving trips in 5-star luxury and designer gifts as compensation for their efforts.

What makes the memoir really charming is how open she is about her own relationship and how her husband, who upped sticks with her to Tokyo, feels about her short-term job.

This book won't make you envy the life of a Tokyo hostess—but it might make you consider trying it. ★★ ★★



CAM BELT-ER

DAVE CAMERON'S SCHOOL DAYS

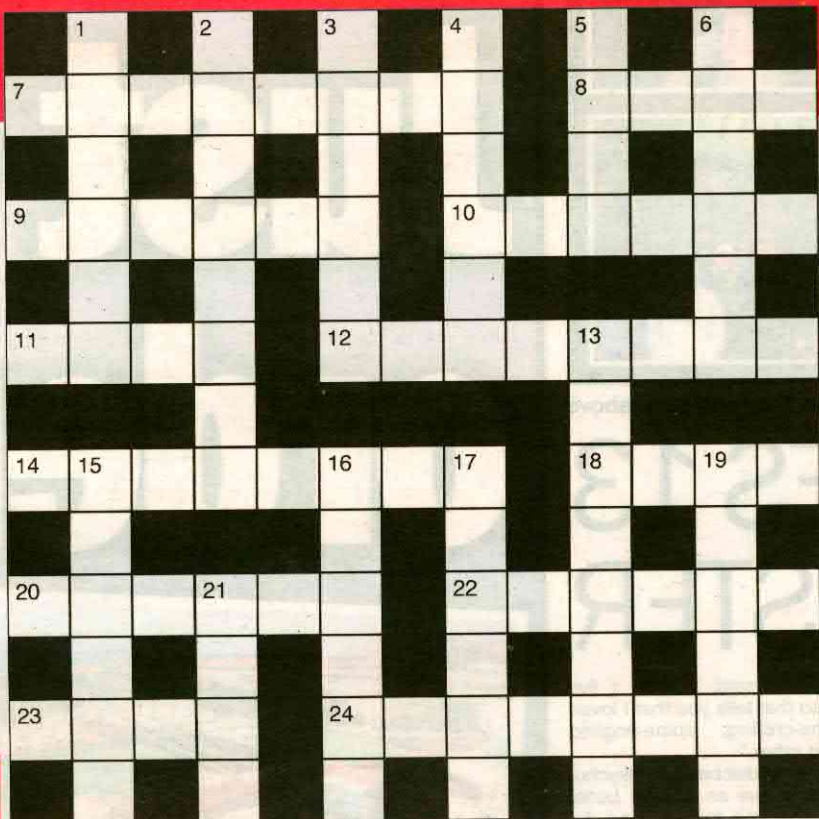
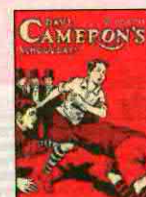
by Bill Coles (Legend Press, £7.99)

SEX, lies, drink... this cracking tale tracks a fictional young David Cameron's first year at a prestigious school—and it's far from an Eton Mess.

In 1979, a 14-year-old Cameron is clearly on the naive side, annoying his tutor from the get go. Cam soon meets the "Popper" (or Prefect) BJ, who teaches him about "extra-curricular" activities. What follows are loads of hilarious situations—including Cam becoming a porn-mag baron.

These spoof memoirs may make you warm to the man who's knocking on No 10's door. Brilliantly paced and brilliantly written, Coles draws you in, leaving a childish smile on your face.

This is sure to get your vote. ★★ ★★
(Reviews by KAT LAY, CAROLINE MCGUIRE, TALAL MUSA & DOUGLAS WIGHT)



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1 Japanese dress (6)
2 Catastrophe (8)
3 Soft (6)
4 Sculpture (6)
5 Impecunious (4)
6 Generator (6)

13 Bullfighter (8)

15 On fire (6)

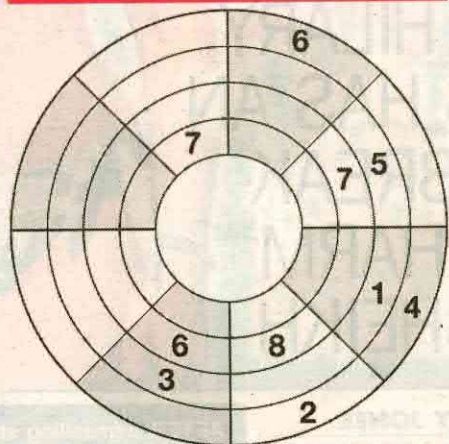
16 Flowers (6)

17 Recollect (6)

19 Chouse (6)

21 Trend (4)

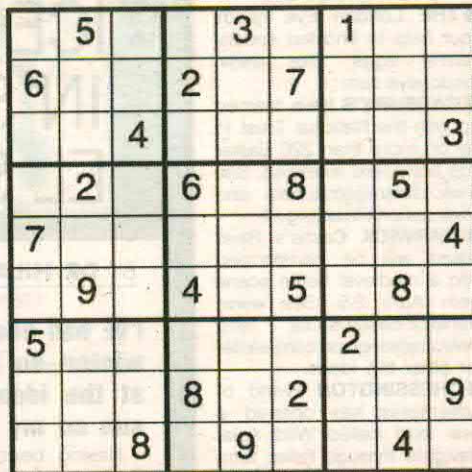
>CIRCLE DOKU



FILL in all the sections of the circle so that every number from 1 to 8 appears in each ring, and in each pair of neighbouring pink and yellow "slices" or segments. Hint: each pink segment will contain exactly the same set of numbers (but in different orders). The same applies to each yellow segment.

>HARD SUDOKU

TO play, fill in the empty squares so each of the digits from 1 to 9 occurs once in each row and each column. Each 3 x 3 box must contain one of each of the digits.



>TV LINKS

HERE'S another fun quiz to provide telly buffs with a bit of a teaser.

You'll see that each of the celebrities we have featured on the right is linked to the next one by a well-known television programme...

All you have to do is fill in the blanks to crack the quiz.

Sue Johnston

Joanna Lumley

David McCallum

Robert Vaughn

2	6	8	5	9	3	7	4	1
3	1	7	8	4	2	5	6	9
5	4	9	7	6	1	2	3	8
1	6	9	6	4	7	5	3	8
7	8	5	3	2	6	9	1	4
4	2	3	6	1	8	9	5	7
9	7	4	1	5	6	8	2	3
6	3	1	2	7	4	9	5	8
8	5	2	9	3	4	1	7	6

HARD