

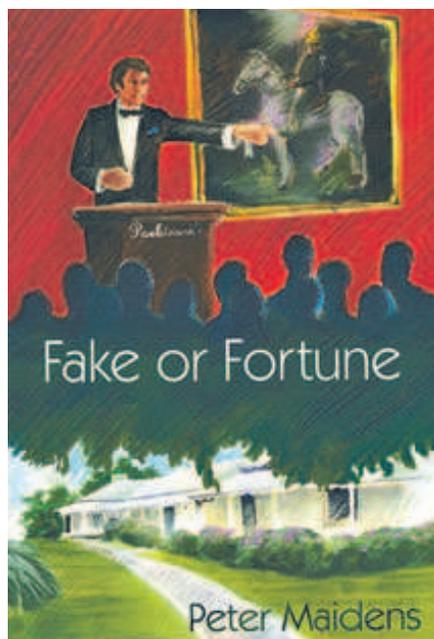
Stephens Island wren is the only instance in the world where a single species has been made extinct by another single species i.e. the domestic cat.

Cat on the Island is the sensitive story of the eradication of the wren by the feral cats. Conservation authorities eventually destroyed all the cats but it was too late.

Gary Crew is Australia's most awarded author for children and young adults having won the Children's Book Council Book of the Year four times - twice for his young adult novels and twice for his illustrated books.



Local author writes of love in a warm climate



MAPLETON AUTHOR Peter Maidens is close behind the central character in his first novel, *Fake or Fortune* launched recently on the Blackall Range.

The book's hero is Peter Sharp, an attractive livestock and fine art auctioneer who becomes entangled with the Morgan Collection of fine art paintings.

The story begins on the extensive black-soil plains of north-west New South Wales and moves to London, the enticing island of Sicily and back to Australia.

Apart from being a story of family intrigue, theft and murder, Peter Maidens has created a love story that stretches over two decades and leads his hero, Peter Sharp, through a series of adventures and relationships before the book reaches its climax.

The novel's intricate descriptions of work amongst livestock, outback station life and fine art valuations reflects Peter Maiden's own life over almost thirty years around Canberra as a stock and real estate agent and auctioneer, mainly in his own business.

Following retirement to the Sunshine Coast Hinterland Peter acquired a taste for fine art and he travelled widely in Europe, particularly Sicily, to improve his knowledge of the masters. Peter has woven his knowledge of European artists into his novel and shines a fascinating light on the world of fine art auctions.

Fake or Fortune reveals some amazing, and sometimes shocking surprises for Peter Sharp during the ten years that he is involved with the Morgan Collection, and before his troubled first love is finally resolved.

Fake or Fortune is on sale at Rosetta Books or contact: sales@fakeorfortune.com

GREENING AUSTRALIA has launched its long-awaited Bush Book – A manual for managing native vegetation across northern Australia.

Invasive weeds, feral animals, fire, soil erosion and declining water quality pose a serious threat to north Australian environments.

John Woinarski, one of the contributing authors, says "This book is about living in the natural landscapes of northern Australia, one of the world's largest remaining intact natural systems. The book hopes to offer something to all who live or work in this landscape, be they rural block-owners, landcare groups, pastoralists, park government land managers, or managers of transport and service corridors".

The Bush Book is a collection of chapters and case studies based on people's practical bushland management work. Material has been contributed by over seventy authors who live and work in northern Australia and edited by Maria Kraatz from EnviroNorth Environmental Consultants NT, Peter Jacklyn from Tropical Savannas CRC NT, and Mike Clarke from Greening Australia.

Mike Clarke says of the book, "Most books on vegetation management have been written for southern climes and have focused on managing bushland remnants...here is a manual that can be used by people who have a passion for managing maintaining and improving the condition of our unique north Australian bushland environments."

The book is available from Greening Australia (www.greeningaustralia.org.au), or from any good book shop.