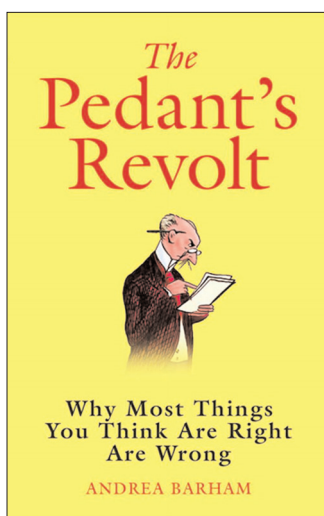


The Pedant's Revolt

Why Most Things You Think Are Right Are Wrong

Publication date: 8 September 2005



The time has come to throw out received wisdom and embrace new facts. Can hair really turn white overnight? Does spinach make you strong? Do we really swallow eight spiders a year in our sleep? Do ostriches stick their heads in the sand? Was Walt Disney cryonically frozen? And does reading under the duvet damage our kids' eyesight, or cracking our knuckles give us arthritis?

The Pedant's Revolt blows apart many myths and urban legends, explaining the real facts behind them and the history of how they originated. For example, do you believe that your heart stops when you sneeze? Andrea Barham did, until she started to look into it, and on discovering it wasn't true she began her quest to correct such misconceptions. Andrea has spent years researching the truth behind such fallacies as 'Newton discovered the law of gravity when an apple fell on his head' and 'if a baby bird is handled and returned to its nest the mother will "smell a human" on it and reject it'.

Price £9.99

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Hardback

Covering a wide range of diverse topics – from history to science, the arts, the animal kingdom, medicine, the human body, and food and drink – and presenting its well-researched facts in a highly accessible and entertaining manner, this intriguing book sets the record straight by exposing a great many of the common myths and fallacies that have become entrenched in everyday thought.

About the Author

Author and freelance technical writer **Andrea Barham** is the acceptable face of pedantry; while she is a big fan of the world, she feels there should be less wrongness and more rightness in it. Painfully aware of her inability to correct the bigger issues such as war, poverty and global warming, she is focusing her efforts on smaller issues better suited to her skills, which consist of 'looking stuff up'. By correcting common misconceptions, such as the belief that your heart stops when you sneeze, she is hoping that this will have a knock-on effect and eventually all wrongs will be righted. But she is not holding her breath (which, incidentally, one cannot die from, as is commonly believed). Please support her in her crusade. *The Pedant's Revolt* is her fifth book.

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