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Cockney Rhyming Slang
The Language of London

Daniel Smith

Description

The definitive guide to the vibrant and inventive language of the East End, featuring history, trivia and anecdotes.

Cockney rhyming slang originated as a secret code among the thieves of London's East End. Adopted by costermongers and market traders, it fast became a vibrant patois that defined a community, confused the police and evolved to include ever more colourful rhyming phrases.

Constantly updated and added to ever since, and fostered by Londoners citywide, it has long enlivened the streets of one of the world's most quirky and fascinating capitals.

Cockney Rhyming Slang explores the origins and meanings of both commonly used and lesser-known phrases, taking in traditional slang as well as modern additions. Combining history, trivia, quotes and anecdotes, it is the definitive guide to cockney rhyming slang for locals and language lovers alike.

Sales Points

- A fun and informative guide to the language of London's East End
- Readers can learn about the interesting origins and famous usage as well as the meanings of both common and lesser-known expressions
- Phrases are grouped thematically – food, drink, sports, weather, the pub, the world of work, swearing and more – with lively introductory paragraphs
- From the publisher of the *Little Book of Cockney Rhyming Slang (*47,000 sold)*, Dirty Cockney Rhyming Slang (*100,000 sold) and *Cockney Rhyming Slang* (25,000 sold)

Reviews

- 'Try this: explores the history and meanings of phrases both famous and obscure.' - *The Times*
- 'It's handy, sure, and a right old laugh.' - *Loaded*
- 'An enjoyable read.' - *Best of British*

Author Biography

Daniel Smith is a non-fiction author and editor who has written across a range of subjects, including politics, economics and social history. He is the author of the 'How to Think Like...' series for Michael O'Mara Books. He is also a long-time contributor to *The Statesman's Yearbook*, the geo-political guide to the world that celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2013. He lives in London.