

BALDERDASH PIFFLE: ONE SANDWICH SHORT OF A DOG S DINNER (PAPERBACK)



Ebury Publishing, United Kingdom, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. UK ed.. Language: English . Brand New Book. Balderdash Piffle: One Sandwich Short of a Dog s Dinner is a thrilling ride through the provocative, bewildering and often downright bizarre world of language and etymology. From the brash jargon of celebrity magazines to the delicacies and feints of the euphemism, author and word-sleuth Alex Games has uncovered the remarkable stories that lie behind some of our best-loved words and expressions. By grouping words into distinct themes - such as put downs and insults, the vocab of fashionistas and the lingo of dodgy dealings - Balderdash Piffle looks at the English language in a fresh and revealing light. Who was the original Jack the Lad? What is the tragic story behind the expression Sweet F.A.? Balderdash Piffle will show you where thugs come from, why barmy once had more to do with your beer than your brain, and how a little bit of hanky-panky could literally work magic. From the Cloud-cuckoo-land of Aristophanes to the town of Balaclava, this is a funny but rigorously researched account of English words and their origins. Drawing together sources as diverse as William Shakespeare, David Cameron and the Burnham-on-Sea Gazette, Alex Games recalls the trends, innovations and scandals that have produced some of our most familiar but least explored words and phrases. Accompanying a brand new series of the hit BBC television programme Balderdash Piffle - and containing all the results of the Wordhunt from the first series -this entertaining book is a treasure trove for English-language lovers everywhere.



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