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Winner, 2014 Indie Award for Non-Fiction. *Girt*. No word could better capture the essence of Australia... In this hilarious history, David Hunt reveals the truth of Australia's past, from megafauna to Macquarie the cock-ups and curiosities, the forgotten eccentrics and Eureka moments that have made us who we are. *Girt* introduces forgotten heroes like Mary McLoghlin, transported for the crime of felony of sock, and Trim the cat, who beat a French monkey to become the first animal to circumnavigate Australia. It recounts the misfortunes of the escaped Irish convicts who set out to walk from Sydney to China, guided only by a hand-drawn paper compass, and explains the role of the coconut in Australia's only military coup. Our nation's beginnings are steeped in the strange, the ridiculous and the frankly bizarre. *Girt* proudly reclaims these stories for all of us. Not to read it would be un-Australian. Shortlisted, 2014 ABA Nielsen BookData Bookseller's Choice Award, 2014 NSW Premier's Literary Awards, 2014 Australian Book Industry Awards. *Girt* cuts an irreverent swath through the facts, fools, fantasies and frauds that made this country what it is today, hoisting sacred cows on their own petards and otherwise sawing the legs off Lady Macquaries chair. I was transported. Shane Maloney, the Age Best Books of 2013. *Girt* is a ripping read, a humorous history that is accessible enough to share with the eight-year-old. Hunt's writing interests span comedy, politics and history, a happy triumvirate when your subject is Australia. Stephen Romei in the Australian. David Hunt is an unusually tall and handsome man who likes writing his own bios for all the books he has written. David is the author of *Girt: The Unauthorised History of Australia*, which won the 2014 Indie Award for non-fiction and was shortlisted in both the NSW Premier's Literary Awards and Australian Book Industry Awards. True *Girt*, the sequel, was published in 2016, as was a book for children, *The Nose Pixies*. David has a birthmark that looks like Tasmania, only smaller and not as far south.

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