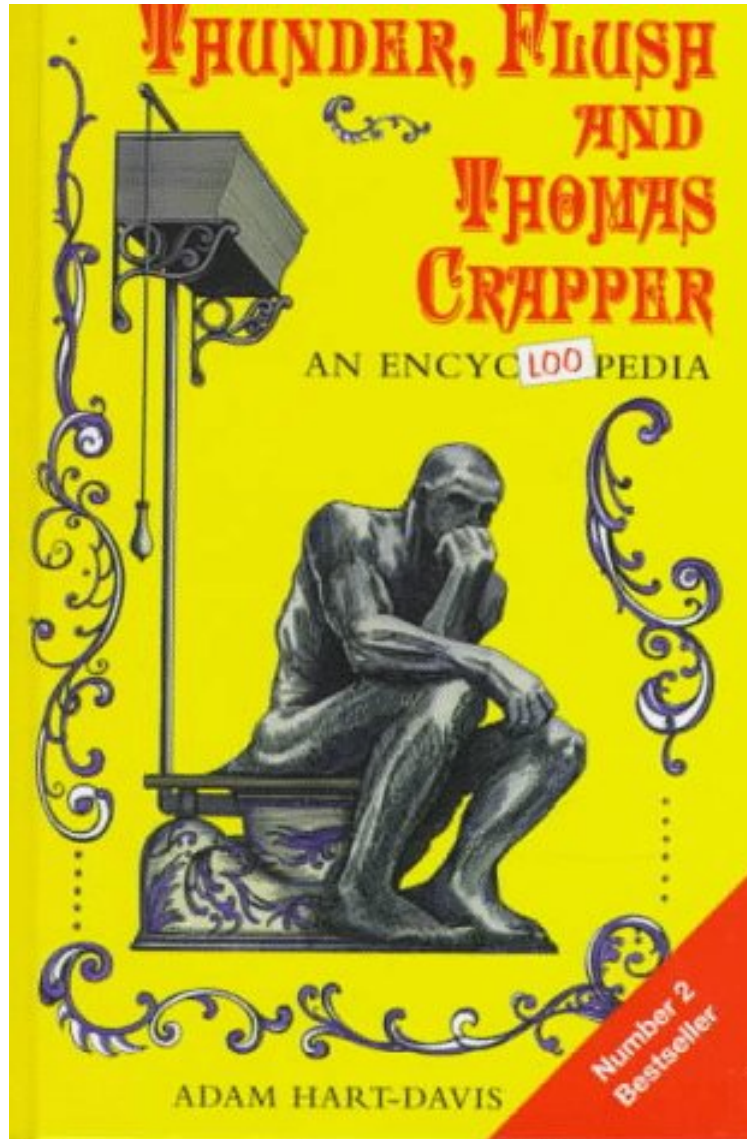


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## Thunder, Flush, and Thomas Crapper: An Encycloopedia (Sic)

*Adam Hart-Davis*

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**Adam Hart-Davis : Thunder, Flush, and Thomas Crapper: An Encycloopedia (Sic)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thunder, Flush, and Thomas Crapper: An Encycloopedia (Sic):

3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Going places and doing things By Marvin D. Pipher This little book deals with subjects with which we are all too familiar but about which most of us know very little. I refer, of course, to defecating and urinating -- euphemistically termed "going to the bathroom," "powdering one's nose," or more aptly

"the pause that refreshes" -- how earlier peoples did so, some of the more unusual facilities for accomplishing such feats, how bathrooms got the way they are today, and who some of the principal inventors and players were down through the years. The book, then, not only lets us know how lucky we are today but also gives us a whiff of how things used to be and to some extent still are. Unfortunately, the author seems to have confined his sense of humor to the book's title and cover, since most of the material is presented in a rather tedious, encyclopedic, technically detailed manner. There is, however, much to be learned. I.e.:\* Who took out the first patent for a siphonic flush (Joseph Adamson, not Thomas Crapper);\* Where in Montana there is a double-decker privy in which those using the first floor must be careful not to lean to the right;\* Whether a higher percentage of men or women adorn their public facilities with graffiti;\* What the term "Gardy-loo" meant in the middle ages;\* Where the privy having the longest drop, 2000 feet, is located;\* Why the number "100" often appears on lavatory doors in Turkey, Italy, France;\* Why toilet facilities on navy ships are called "heads," and finally;\* That men start peeing faster when sheltered or spaced farther apart at public urinals. So, if these subjects strike your fancy and you have time to just sit and ponder, this book might be an excellent addition to your WC (Water Closet) library. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Satisfaction By Rodney Burris Thoroughly satisfied

Thunder, Flush and Thomas Crapper is a dictionary of all things lavatorial, from the Abbot of St. Albans (allegedly the first Englishman to have a W.C., c. 1115) to the zero-gravity loo (as featured in the film 2001: A Space Odyssey), by way of the dog toilet, the night-soil men who took away the sewage in the streets, and the superloo, successor to the pissoir. Meticulously researched and packed with information (as well as plenty of humor), this is a book that everyone should keep by their loo. The author of this book is a very well-known writer and broadcaster. This title includes numerous illustrations.

About the Author ADAM HART-DAVIS is a writer, photographer and broadcaster. Perhaps best known for his Local Heroes and What the Stuarts / Tudors / Victorians / Romans Did For Us television series, he has also written (with Emily Troskianko) Taking the Piss: a Potted History of Pee and is an honorary member of the British Toilet Association.