



Weekend Australian
Saturday 7/11/2009
Page: 20
Section: Review
Region: Australia
Type: National
Size: 59.21 sq.cms.

Brief: MUPUBLISH

crime file Graeme Blundell



On the Run

By Colin McLaren

MUP

286pp, \$29.99

COLIN McLaren, a former taskforce detective and undercover cop, documented his career investigating some of Australia's worst crimes in his bestselling memoir, *Infiltration*. His first novel picks up where his clandestine life left off, after he busted the Griffith mafia. McLaren cleverly uses his real-life experience to inform a thrilling piece of fiction. As his fictional undercover cop Cole Goodwin and his team celebrate the guilty verdict after bringing leaders of the Australian mafia to justice, a vendetta is rolled out against him. To end it Goodwin must travel to bleak southern Italy, the heartland of the Calabrian mafia, which has sent a hit man after him. McLaren's sharp prose is punctuated with snappy dialogue, his plotting plausible and expertly paced.