



Goondiwindi Regional Council

## LIBRARY BOOK LOVERS' GROUP

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**March 2024**

<https://www.grc.qld.gov.au/homepage/108/library-lovers-book-group-online>

### March Theme: *A Toast To The Irish*

#### Featured Titles (Details available in library)

- *Rememberings* / Sinéad O'Connor  
(Non Fiction 2022)
- *The Making of Her* / Bernadette Jiwa  
(Fiction 2022)
- *Maeve's Times* / Maeve Binchy  
(Non Fiction 2013)
- *The Glorious Guinness Girls*  
Emily Hourican (Fiction 2020)

#### Recommended Reading List

List attached. Printed copies in the library.

#### Featured Author

Sally Rooney



#### Recommendations From Other Readers

List attached. Printed copies in the library.

#### Book Reviews:

- *Edenglassie* / Melissa Lucashenko
- *The Milliner of Bendigo* / Darry Fraser

### From Both Groups This Month

**Authors:** Joyne Boyne, Dervla McTiernan, Oscar Wilde, Michael Connelly, Judy Nunn

#### *Family History – Woods and Makim*

Personal book but can be carefully borrowed.

#### *The Cedar Tree* / Nicole Alexander F 2020

In 1864 cousins Brandon and Sean O'Riain fled their tenant farms in County Tipperary as wanted criminals. Now, three years on, they are working as cedar-cutters in New South Wales's lush-green Richmond Valley. But while Brandon embraces the opportunities this new country offers, Sean refuses to let go of the past.

#### *Angela's Ashes* / Frank McCourt NF 1996

McCourt's Pulitzer Prize winning look back at his childhood. "When I look back on my childhood, I wonder how I survived at all. It was, of course, a miserable childhood: the happy childhood is hardly worth your while. Worse than the ordinary miserable childhood is the miserable Irish childhood, and worse yet is the miserable Irish Catholic childhood."

#### *The Boy in Striped Pyjamas* / John Boyne Fiction 2016

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pyjamas who lives behind a wire fence.

### NEXT MEETING

**2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Goondiwindi 10.00 a.m.

Theme: *A Numbers Game*

**16<sup>th</sup> April**

Inglewood 10.00 a.m.

***The Heart's Invisible Furies* / John Boyne  
Fiction 2017**

In this (book) we are shown the story of Ireland from the 1940s to today through the eyes of one ordinary man. A novel to make you laugh and cry while reminding us all of the redemptive power of the human spirit.

***Wifedom : Mrs. Orwell's invisible life*  
Anna Funder Non Fiction 2023**

A riveting work about the woman who sacrificed her future for one of the most famous writers of the twentieth century and a probing look at what it means to be a wife and a writer in the modern world.

***Killers of the Flower Moon* / David Grann**

**Non Fiction 2017**

Presents a true account of the early twentieth-century murders of dozens of wealthy Osage and law-enforcement officials, citing the contributions and missteps of a fledgling FBI that uncovered one of the most chilling conspiracies in American history.

***Invasion* / Details still to come from Hamish**

***Home to Biloela* / Priya Nadesalingam**

**Non Fiction 2023**

The dramatic inside story of the Tamil refugee family which became a cause célèbre all around Australia, and the epic fight by a small rural community to set them free.

***I Catch Killers* / Gary Jubelin with Dan Box  
Non Fiction 2020**

As a cop, I got paid to catch killers and I learned what doing it can cost you. It cost me marriages and friendships. It cost me my reputation. They tell you not to let a case get personal, but I think it has to.

***The Last Nomad* / W.J. Peasley NF 2006**

The deeply moving story of Warri and Yatungka, the last of the Mandjildjara people to remain in the Gibson Desert, the traditional home of the tribe. Forbidden to marry by tribal law, the couple fled into the desert, refusing to leave with the rest of their people when they moved closer to white settlements.

***Her Sunburnt Country: Biography Dorothea McKellar* / Deborah Fitzgerald NF 2023**

The first definitive biography of Australian poet and writer Dorothea Mackellar, author of the celebrated poem 'My Country.'

***The Seamstress of Sardinia* / Bianca Pitzorno  
Fiction 2023**

Born into poverty, the seamstress spends her days sewing in the houses of wealthy families. Her work is simple and honest, taught by her nonna. Set at the dawn of the twentieth century, her story weaves in and out of the lives of the people she works for, whose secrets and scandals she is privy to - always fighting for her independence in a world dominated by men and old social conventions.

***Outlive: The art and science of longevity*  
Dr Peter Attia Non Fiction 2023**

With *Outlive's* practical advice and roadmap, you can plot a different path for your life, one that lets you outlive your genes to make each decade better than the one before.

***The Only Woman in the Room*  
Marie Benedict Fiction 2023**

A powerful novel based on the incredible true story of the glamour icon and scientist, Hedy Lamarr, whose groundbreaking invention revolutionised modern communication.

***Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha* / Roddy Doyle  
Fiction 1993**

This Booker Prize-winning novel describes the world of ten-year-old Paddy Clarke, growing up in Barrytown, north Dublin. From fun and adventure on the streets, boredom in the classroom to increasing isolation at home. The story of a boy who sees everything but understands less and less.

***The Bookbinder of Jericho* / Pip Williams  
Fiction 2023**

It is 1914, and as the war draws the young men of Britain away to fight, women must keep the nation running. Two of those women are Peggy and Maude, twin sisters who live on a narrowboat in Oxford and work in the bindery at the university press.

***The Mystery Guest* / Nita Prose**

**Fiction 2023**

Molly Gray wears her Head Maid badge proudly for every shift at the Regency Grand Hotel. But when a renowned guest -- a famous mystery writer -- drops very dead in the grand tea room, Molly has an unusual clean-up on her hands. Because Molly knew the dead guest once upon a time...

***Balcony Over Jerusalem* / John Lyons**

**Non Fiction 2021 (Not on RLQ)**

An intimate account of the Israel-Palestine conflict and beyond, from one of Australia's most experienced foreign correspondents.

***One Bright Moon* / Andrew Kwong**

**Non Fiction 2020**

Andrew Kwong was only seven when he witnessed his first execution. The grim scene left him sleepless, anxious and doubtful about his fervour as a revolutionary in Mao's New China. The poignant, resonant story of a young boy's awakening - to survival, education, fulfilment, and eventually to a new life of freedom.

***Women & Children* / Tony Birch**

**Fiction 2023**

It's 1965 and Joe Cluny is living in a working-class suburb with his mum, Marion, and sister, Ruby. Joe comes to understand the secrets that the women in his family carry, including on their bodies. Yet their pleas for assistance are met with silence and complicity from all sides. Who will help Joe's family at their time of need? A powerful, personal novel about women, children and justice.

***That Bligh Girl* / Sue Williams Fiction 2023**

A fascinating story of Governor Bligh's trouble-making daughter, Mary, a powerful and determined woman.

***Elizabeth & Elizabeth* / Sue Williams F 2023**

The story of how two women, Elizabeth Macquarie and Elizabeth Macarthur, who should have been bitter foes, combined their courage and wisdom to wield extraordinary power and influence behind the scenes of a fledgling Australian colony.

***Heretics* / G.K. Chesterton NF 1905**

A collection of twenty essays. Focusing on "heretics" — those who pride themselves on their superiority to Christian views — Chesterton appraises prominent figures who fall into that category from the literary and art worlds.

***Lola in the Mirror* / Trent Dalton F 2023**

A girl and her mother have been on the run for sixteen years, from police and the monster they left in their kitchen with a knife in his throat. They've found themselves a home inside a van with four flat tyres parked in a scrapyard by the edge of the Brisbane River. The girl has no name because names are dangerous when you're on the run. But the girl has a dream.

***A Home Like Ours* / Fiona Lowe F 2023**

A picturesque small town, a cosy community garden, a facade of tolerance and acceptance - but when three women with wildly different loyalties come together, what secrets and lies will be revealed? A timely novel exploring prejudice and privilege.

***Tracks* / Robyn Davidson NF 1980**

This book is about one woman's solo trek across the Australian Outback. A camel-trek from the heart of Australia, across 17,000 miles of hostile desert, to the sea - with only a dog and four camels for company.

***The Crossing* / Sophie Matterson NF 2023**

An inspirational and amazing memoir about a woman who gave up everything she knew to start her own camel saddlery and do a camel trek across the Australian Outback in 2022

***Son of Hamas*/Mosab Hassan Yousef NF 2010**

The oldest son of Sheikh Hassan Yousef, a founding member of Hamas, reveals new information about the world's most dangerous terrorist organization and unveils the truth about his own role, his agonizing separation from family and homeland, the dangerous decision to make his newfound faith public, and his belief that the Christian mandate to "love your enemies" is the only way to peace in the Middle East.