

# LIBRARY BOOK LOVERS' GROUP

## NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2025 | FRIENDSHIPS



<https://www.grc.qld.gov.au/Residents/Libraries/Activities-Program/Library-Book-Lovers-Group>

### A selection from Both Groups

#### *The salt path*

Raynor Winn | Non-Fiction | 2019

Movie Release | Australia | 25 May 2025

Just days after Raynor Winn learns that Moth, her husband of thirty-two years, is terminally ill, their house and farm are taken away, along with their livelihood. With nothing left and little time, they make the brave and impulsive decision to walk the 630 miles of the sea-swept South West Coast Path, from Somerset to Dorset. Carrying only the essentials for survival on their backs, they live wild in the ancient, weathered landscape of cliffs, sea, and sky. Their walk becomes a remarkable and life-affirming journey.

#### *Outback songman: My life*

Ted Egan | Non Fiction | 2019

He's the quintessential bush storyteller; he has rubbed shoulders with some of the best-known and least-known of his countrymen and women, and he can wring a heart-wrenching song out of a beer carton. In Outback Songman, Ted Egan recounts the story of his rich and extraordinary life.

#### *Snow Flower and the secret fan*

Lisa See | Fiction | 2011

A story of friendship set in nineteenth-century China follows an elderly woman and her companion as they communicate their hopes, dreams, joys, and tragedies through a unique secret language.

#### *Whistling past the graveyard*

Susan Crandall | Fiction | 2014

Determined to get to Nashville to find her mother in 1963, nine-year-old spitfire Starla Claudelle runs away from her strict grandmother's Mississippi home, eventually accepting a ride from a Eula, a black woman traveling alone with a white baby.

#### *Australian Gospel*

Lech Blaine | Non Fiction | 2024

Michael and Mary Shelley are Christian fanatics who loathe their fellow Australians - especially their 'reckless indulgence of alcohol and obsession with idiotic ball sports'. Lenore and Tom Blaine are working-class Queensland publicans raising a large family in a raucous, loving, sports-obsessed home. Lenore and Tom are foster parents to three of Michael and Mary Shelley's children, who were removed from the Shelleys as infants.

#### GOONDIWINDI

4th March  
10 AM

#### INGLEWOOD

18th March  
10 AM



MARCH THEME

NOT YOUR USUAL

***Wild Place*****Christian White | Fiction | 2021**

In the summer of 1989, a local teen goes missing from the idyllic suburb of Camp Hill in Australia. As rumours of Satanic rituals swirl, schoolteacher Tom Witter becomes convinced he holds the key to the disappearance. When the police won't listen, he takes matters into his own hands with the help of the missing girl's father and a local neighbourhood watch group. But as dark secrets are revealed and consequences to past actions are faced, Tom learns that the only way out of the darkness is to walk deeper into it.

***Barefoot in the Bindis*****Angela Wales | Non Fiction | 2019**

In 1953, after doctors prescribed fresh country air for his health, Scottish-born Robert Wales uprooted his young family from the city life of Sydney and set out to establish a sheep farm in the bush. What he lacked in experience and expertise, he made up for in enthusiasm. Or so he hoped. When the family arrived on a lonely hill in northern New South Wales, they had no electricity, no running water, no telephone and no choice but to make that tangle of bush their home.

***The tea girl of Hummingbird Lane*****Lisa See | Fiction | 2017**

The story of a Chinese mother and her daughter, who has been adopted by an American couple, tracing the very different cultural factors that compel them to consume a rare native tea that has shaped their family's destiny for generations.

***Monash*****Grantlee Kieza | Non Fiction | 2015**

John Monash's life is emblematic of Australia's much-heralded egalitarian spirit. Despite a scandalous private life and the experience of virulent racism, he established himself as a major force, not just on the bloody fields of wartime Europe but also in post-war society, where he oversaw vital developments in making Australia into a modern nation. But who was this unconventional man, what drove him and how did he manage to break down so many walls to rise to such a prominent position?

***Back to Birdsville*****Fiona McArthur | Fiction | 2024**

When midwife and emergency nurse Phoebe McFadden fled her family dramas at age sixteen, she thought she'd left Birdsville for good. But when her cousin Scarlet asks her to be bridesmaid in her wedding party, Phoebe knows it's time to make her way home... and face the past. As Phoebe settles back into town, she keeps crossing paths with Atticus Bow, the latest Birdsville cop - no longer the skinny kid she remembers but an irresistible man she does not want to be attracted to. The last thing she needs is to become attached to this place again, but as she starts to let Birdsville - and its people - back into her heart, she discovers secrets that have remained locked away for far too long.

***Broken Girl*****Bradley Greive | Non Fiction | 2024**

Sometimes the whole truth is the death of everything. Caroline Laner Breure was on holiday in Spain with her boyfriend when her skull was crushed. A year later, following starless months in a coma and painful rehabilitation, Caroline returned to her beachside apartment in Sydney, only to find that her home was not her home, her lover was not her lover and her friends were not her friends. Everyone and everything she'd loved had vanished. Physically broken and no longer able to trust her own mind, she painstakingly searched for clues to explain the cruel disparity between her past and present.

***The twins of Auschwitz*****Eva Kor | Non Fiction | 2020**

In 1944, Eva Mozes Kor and her family arrived at Auschwitz. Within thirty minutes, they were separated. Eva and her twin, Miriam, were herded into the care of the man who became known as the Angel of Death: Dr. Josef Mengele. They were 10 years old. While twins at Auschwitz were granted the 'privileges' of keeping their own clothes and hair, they were also subjected to Mengele's sadistic medical experiments. The Twins of Auschwitz shares the inspirational story of a child's endurance and survival in the face of truly extraordinary evil.