# LIBRARY BOOK LEVERS' GROUP

### SUGGESTED READS

SNOW JULY 2025

### Always home, always homesick Hannah Kent | Non Fiction A823.4 KENT

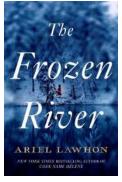
In 2003, seventeen-year-old Australian exchange student Hannah Kent arrives at Keflavik Airport in the middle of the Icelandic winter. That night she sleeps off her jet lag and bewilderment in the National Archives of Iceland, unaware that, years later, she will return to



the same building to write Burial Rites, the haunting story of Agnes Magnúsdóttir, the last woman executed in Iceland. The novel will go on to launch the author's stellar literary career and capture the hearts of readers across the globe. Always Home, Always Homesick is Hannah Kent's exquisite love letter to a land that has forged a nation of storytellers, her ode to the transcendent power of creativity, and her invitation to us all to join her in the realms of mystery, spirit and wonder.

### The frozen river Ariel Lawhon | Fiction

Maine, 1789: When a man is found entombed in the frozen Kennebec River, Martha Ballard is summoned to examine the body and determine cause of death. As the local midwife and healer, Martha is good at keeping secrets. Her diary is a record of every birth, death and debacle that unfolds in the town of



Hallowell. In that diary she has also documented the details of an alleged rape committed by one of the town's most esteemed gentlemen – the same man who has now been found dead in the ice. While certain townspeople are eager to put both matters to rest, Martha suspects that the two crimes are linked, and that there is more to both cases than meets the eye. Over the course of one long, hard winter, whispers and prejudices mount, and Martha's diary lands at the centre of the scandal, threatening to tear both her family and her community apart.

### Cold enough for snow Jessica Aul Fiction

A young woman has arranged a holiday with her mother in Japan. They travel by train, visit galleries and churches chosen for their art and architecture, eat together in small cafés and restaurants and walk along the canals at night, on guard against the autumn rain and the prospect of snow. All the while, they talk,

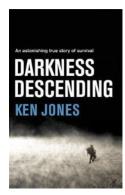


or seem to talk: about the weather, horoscopes, clothes and objects; about the mother's family in Hong Kong, and the daughter's own formative experiences. But uncertainties abound. How much is spoken between them, how much is thought but unspoken? Cold Enough for Snow is a reckoning and an elegy: with extraordinary skill, Au creates an enveloping atmosphere that expresses both the tenderness between mother and daughter, and the distance between them.

### **Darkness Descending**

Ken Jones | Non Fiction 796.522 JONE

On 5 January 2003, former Special Forces soldier Ken Jones was caught in a devastating avalanche as he climbed in the frozen wilderness of Romania's Transylvanian Alps. Flung from a cliff, he regained consciousness to find himself shrouded in darkness, separated from his supplies, suffering from overexposure in the sub zero-



temperatures and in horrendous pain from a broken leg and shattered pelvis. Heavily frostbitten and bleeding internally, Ken dragged himself to safety over three agonizing days only to discover that his true ordeal had yet to begin. His account of life saving surgery and his battle to walk again is a classic tale of triumph over adversity and what it means to never give up. Heart stopping and inspiring to the very last page.



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#### **Snow**

#### John Banville | Fiction

1957. Detective Inspector St. John Strafford has been summoned to County Wexford to investigate when a parish priest is found dead in Ballyglass House, the family seat of the aristocratic, secretive Osborne family. The Catholic Church rules Ireland with an iron fist, and Strafford- a Protestant- faces obstruction at every turn. There is a culture of



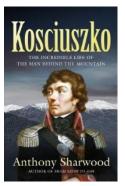
silence in this tight-knit community, and Stafford learns the Osbornes are not at all what they seem. When his own deputy goes missing, Strafford must work to unravel the ever-expanding mystery before the community's secrets, like the snowfall itself, threatens to obliterate everything.

# Kosciuszko: the incredible life of the man behind the mountain

Anthony Sharwood | Non Fiction 923.5 SHAR

Kosciuszko - our iconic highest mountain - is a name familiar to all Australians. But how many people know who the mountain is named after?

Tadeusz Kosciuszko, who lived from 1746 to 1817, is the most famous person Australians probably know absolutely nothing about. Bestselling author



Anthony Sharwood (From Snow to Ash; The Brumby Wars) has spent a lifetime walking, skiing and writing about Kosciuszko National Park. Now he sets off on the trail of the man himself, travelling across the USA, Poland and Switzerland to key sites in Kosciuszko's life. Returning to Australia where a potential name change from Mt Kosciuszko to an Indigenous name is hotly debated, he walks with the area's traditional owners and discovers the ancient history of Australia's highest peak. Kosciuszko's life and legacy is enthralling, inspiring and indispensable. But is that reason enough to keep his name on the mountain?

# Inconvenient women : Australian radical writers, 1900-1970

Jacqueline Kent | Non Fiction 305.42 KENT

Jacqueline Kent traces the social and political issues that inspired and often hampered these determined women and their desire to change the world. Mary Gilmore was a trailblazing feminist journalist and labour movement organiser; Katharine Susannah Prichard wrote about the emotional conflicts inherent

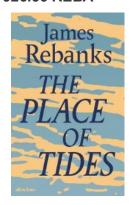


in European and Indigenous relationships and was a co-founder and lifelong member of the Communist Party; Eleanor Dark explored Australian colonisation and the First Nations peoples it displaced; Dymphna Cusack advocated for social reform and had strong links to labour politics; Ruth Park's The Harp in the South inspired the NSW government's slum clearance programs; Dorothy Hewett's novel Bobbin Up was one of the few western works translated into Russian during the Soviet era, and prominent First Nations poet, activist and educator Oodgeroo Noonuccal campaigned for Indigenous rights, including successful constitutional reform.

### The place of tides

James Rebanks | Non Fiction 926.36 REBA

Many years ago, James Rebanks met an old woman on a remote Norwegian island. She lived and worked alone on a tiny rocky outcrop, gathering the down of wild Eider ducks: a centuries-old trade that had once made men and women rich, but had long been in decline. Back at home, Rebanks couldn't stop thinking about the woman. Years passed.



Then, one day, he wrote to her, asking if he could return. Bring work clothes, she replied, and good boots, and come quickly: her health was failing. And so, he travelled to the edge of the Arctic to witness her last season on the island. This is the story of that season.



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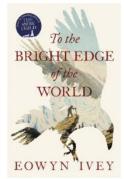
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### To the bright edge of the world Eowyn Ivey | Fiction

A breathtaking story of discovery set at the end of the nineteenth century. Lieutenant Colonel Allen Forrester receives the commission of a lifetime when he is charged to navigate Alaska's hitherto impassable Wolverine River, with only a small group of men. The Wolverine is the key to

opening up Alaska, and its rich



natural resources, to the outside world, but previous attempts have ended in tragedy. Forrester leaves behind his young wife, Sophie, newly pregnant with the child he had never expected to have. Adventurous in spirit, Sophie does not relish the prospect of a year in a military barracks, while her husband carves out a path through the wilderness. What she does not anticipate is that their year apart will demand every ounce of courage and fortitude of her that it does of her husband.

### The land in winter Andrew Miller | Fiction

December 1962, the West Country. Local doctor Eric Parry, mulling secrets, sets out on his rounds, while his pregnant wife sleeps on in the warmth of their cottage. Across the field, funny, troubled Rita Simmons is also asleep, her head full of images of a past life her husband prefers to ignore. He's been up for hours,



tending to the needs of the small dairy farm where he hoped to create a new version of himself, a project that's already faltering. There is affection - if not always love - in both homes. But when the ordinary cold of an English December gives way to violent blizzards - a true winter, the harshest in living memory - the two couples find their lives beginning to unravel. Where do you hide when you can't leave home? And where, in a frozen world, can you run to?

# Wanderlust: an eccentric explorer, an epic journey, a lost age

Reid Mitenbuler | Non Fiction 923.9 FREU

The tale of an eccentric adventurer who traversed some of the greatest frontiers of the twentieth century, from uncharted Arctic wastelands to the underground resistance networks of World War II. Deep in the Arctic wilderness, Peter Freuchen awoke to find himself buried alive under the snow.

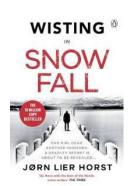


Freuchen's life seemed ripped from the pages of an adventure novel-and provided fodder for many books of his own. A wildly eccentric Dane with an out-of-nowhere sense of humour, his insatiable curiosity drove him from the twilight years of Arctic exploration to the Golden Age of Hollywood, and from the burgeoning field of climate research to the Danish underground during World War II. He conducted jaw-dropping expeditions, survived a Nazi prison camp, and overcame a devastating injury that robbed him of his foot and very nearly his life. Through it all, he was guided not only by restlessness but also by ideals that were remarkably ahead of his time, championing Indigenous communities, environmental stewardship, and starting conversations that continue today.

#### **Snow Fall**

#### Jørn Lier Horst| Fiction

When the body of an Australian backpacker is found in Spain, a global group of amateur sleuths comes alive in attempting to solve the mystery of her death. Foremost on the message boards is Astri, young а Norwegian woman whose feverish pursuit takes her closer than anyone to solving the case.



But just as she makes her claim, she goes offline. No one in the group has heard from her since. William Wisting is sent to investigate, plunged into a world of unorthodox methods and amateur investigation - and a dangerous case where nothing is as it seems...



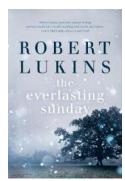
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### The everlasting Sunday Robert Lukins | Fiction

During the freezing English winter of 1962, seventeen-year-old Radford is sent to Goodwin Manor, a home for boys who have been 'found by trouble'. Drawn immediately to the charismatic West, Radford soon discovers that each one of them has something to hide. Life at the Manor offers only a volatile

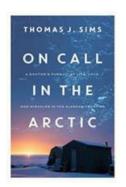


refuge, and unexpected arrivals threaten the world the boys have built. Will their friendship be enough when trouble finds them again? At once both beautiful and brutal, The Everlasting Sunday is a haunting debut novel about growing up, growing wild and what it takes to survive.

# On call in the Arctic: a doctor's pursuit of life, love, and miracles in the Alaskan frontier

Thomas J Sims | Non Fiction 926.1 SIMS

Dr. Sims' plans to become a paediatric surgeon drastically changed when, on the eve of being drafted into the Army to serve as a M.A.S.H. surgeon in Vietnam, he was offered a commissi on in the U.S. Public Health service. He was sent to Nome, Alaska, one of the world's most isolated and unforgiving

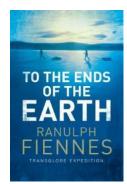


environments. There, he would have the awesome responsibility of rendering medical care under archaic conditions to the population of this frontier town plus thirteen Eskimo villages in the surrounding Norton Sound area. And he would do it alone with little help and support. All the while, he was pegged as both an "outsider" and an employee of the much-derided federal government.

# To the ends of the earth: circling the world from Pole to Pole

Ranulph Fiennes | Non Fiction 910.41 FIEN

Ranulph Fiennes has entered the public imagination as the intrepid explorer par excellence. Taunted by his wife over the challenge of the never-before attempted circumpolar navigation of the globe, he set off in 1979 on a gruelling 52,000 mile adventure. Together with fellow members of 21 SAS regiment, Fiennes left



from Greenwich, travelling over land, passing through both ends of the polar axis. Completed over three years later, it was the first circumpolar navigation of the globe, and justifiably entered Fiennes into the record books.

#### Snowy River summer Stella Quinn | Fiction

Kylie Summer loves her hometown in the Snowies, and life would be wonderful if only her workshop would turn a profit (she's broke) and Hanrahan would recover from its shortage of eligible blokes (unlikely). But then an arrogant city lawyer turns up. Is he in Hanrahan to stay? Not at all. He's charming and he's



good-looking but he's a bad decision waiting to happen. If only he didn't make her feel so ... wonderful. Damon Johns hasn't lost a court case in months, so he's mad as fire when his colleagues ban him from work. Sure, he's had a run-in with a traffic cop ... and a judge ... but banning him? What his colleagues don't know is that Damon's past is about to catch up with him and his career may not be the only thing set to implode. A chance request to organise the sale of a country property is good news: he'll need a distraction if he can't work, and soon he'll be back in the city where he belongs. The bad news? The place comes with a special-needs labrador and a girl-next-door mechanic who both conspire to give his lonely heart crazy ideas about sticking around ...

