



Book choices for April/May 2023

We are delighted to introduce you to our next round of recommendations for our Book Club.

We are recommending 2 fiction and 1 non fiction. If you only read one book we still want to hear from you.

Don't forget, you can access these books in paper or hardback copy, on Kindle or other electronic device or via Audible if you prefer. We've tried to go for ones that are easily accessible but please remember you don't have to read or review all three.

Our choices for this round are:

Non-Fiction

Old Rage by Sheila Hancock

A gloriously irreverent memoir from the frontline of old age - by the Sunday Times-bestselling author and legendary actor

Sheila Hancock looked like she was managing old age. She had weathered and even thrived in widowhood, taking on acting roles that would have been demanding for a woman half her age. She had energy, friends, a devoted family, a lovely home. She could still remember her lines.

So why, at 89, having sailed past supposedly disturbing milestones – 50, 70 even 80 – without a qualm, did she suddenly feel so furious? Shocking diagnoses, Brexit and bereavement seemed to knock her from every quarter. And that was before lockdown.

Home alone, classified as 'extremely vulnerable', she finds herself yelling at the TV and talking to the pigeons. But she can at least take a good long look at life – her work and family, her beliefs (many of them the legacy of her wartime childhood) and, uncomfortable as it might be to face, her future.

In *Old Rage*, one of Britain's best loved actors opens up about her ninth decade. Funny, feisty, honest, she makes for brilliant company as she talks about her life as a daughter, a sister, a mother, a widow, an actor, a friend and looks at a world so different from the wartime world of her childhood. And yet – despite age, despite rage – she finds there are always reasons for joy..

Fiction

Still Life by Sarah Winman

1944, Italy. As bombs fall around them, two strangers meet in the ruined wine cellar of a Tuscan villa and share an extraordinary evening.

Ulysses Temper is a young British soldier, Evelyn Skinner a 64-year-old art historian living life on her own terms. She has come to salvage paintings from the wreckage of war and relive memories of her youth when her heart was stolen by an Italian maid in a particular room with a view. Ulysses' chance encounter with Evelyn will transform his life – and all those who love him back home in London – forever.

Uplifting, sweeping and full of unforgettable characters, *Still Life* is a novel about beauty, love, family and friendship.

The Murder Book by Mark Billingham

TOM THORNE IS BACK . . . AND SO IS HIS WORST NIGHTMARE

Tom Thorne has it all.

In Nicola Tanner and Phil Hendricks, Thorne has good friends by his side. He finally has a love life worth a damn and is happy in the job to which he has devoted his life...

He has everything to lose.

Hunting the woman responsible for a series of grisly murders, Thorne has no way of knowing that he will be plunged into a nightmare from which he may never wake.

And he'll do anything to keep it.

Finally, Thorne's past has caught up with him and a ruinous secret is about to be revealed. If he wants to save himself and his friends, he must do the unthinkable

If you are not already a member of the book club, you can join by registering your interest with:-

Sherry sherry.smith2@nhs.net or Debbie debbie.arnold4@nhs.net in Central Office or by calling them on 01305 361317.

We look forward to receiving your comments back by 2nd March and we will publish them soon afterwards.

Happy reading!!

Sherry, Debbie and Lucia