

# NOVEMBER NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

## BROWSE AND BORROW IS BACK

We are delighted to be able to say that browse and borrow is back from Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November. From that date, we look forward to welcoming members to the library, to peruse the brimming bookshelves. At this stage, the library will be open from 10am to 8pm on Wednesdays, 10am to 6pm Thursdays, 10am to 4pm on Fridays and 10am to 2pm on Saturdays. We will keep members informed of any changes to opening hours.

All staff have been vaccinated and we ask members to come to the desk to sign in and show their vaccination certificates. The quickest and easiest way to show proof of vaccination is by adding your COVID-19 digital certificate to the Service Victoria app. Masks are mandatory, hand sanitiser will be provided, density limits will be observed and regular cleaning will be undertaken by library staff.

If any members would prefer not to enter the library space, we will continue to offer a click and collect service during opening hours. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a click and collect pick-up.

The library is looking terrific with all of our new tables in place so drop in, say hello and start borrowing.

## MUSIC PERFORMANCE: AFFINITY QUARTET

In an extremely welcome return to our music events, Affinity Quartet will perform Schubert's Quartettsatz in C minor (1820) and Haydn's String Quartet op.33 no.1 in B minor (1781) in the library on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 6pm.

Affinity Quartet has established itself as one of Australia's leading string quartets, and has enjoyed critically-acclaimed performances in Amsterdam, Belgium, Venice, Salzburg, and the UK. Performing at the library will be Josephine Chung (violin), Nicholas Waters (violin), Ruby Shirres (viola) and Mee Na Lojewski (cello).

Bookings for the performance are essential on 9650 3100 or email [library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au](mailto:library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au). As always, members are free and guests are just \$10. Refreshments will be provided. If you RSVP and are then unable to attend please let us know as we always have a waiting list.

A busy calendar of events is being assembled for members in 2022 so keep checking the eNews for details.

## MEMBERSHIP EXTENSION

As a thank you for continuing with your membership during the pandemic, all members will have an extra three months added to their existing memberships. The Melbourne Athenaeum Committee and all library staff appreciate the support of our valued members. Enjoy the extra three months.

## **GIFT MEMBERSHIPS**

If you're stuck for what to buy a literary family member or friend, why not consider a gift membership for the library? As a special deal for Christmas, we are offering a \$10 discount on gift memberships (\$89 full membership and \$79 concession). If you would like to buy a gift membership please speak to the library staff.

## **AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR JOCK SERONG**

Victorian writer Jock Serong has won the \$50,000 ARA Historical Novel Prize (adult category) for *The Burning Island*, which can be found on the library's shelves. The award is presented by the Historical Novel Society of Australia, and Serong's novel was chosen from more than 130 entries. Speaking about *The Burning Island*, Chair and Program Director Elisabeth Storrs said: "The winning novel demonstrates the irresistible prose, unforgettable characters, meticulous research, and epic storytelling for which historical fiction is known."

## **BOOK CLUB MEETINGS AND READS**

Our book and screen clubs are currently planning what to read and watch in 2022. If you are interested in joining one of the clubs please speak to library staff.

In November, some of the book club reads include *The thief* (Fuminori Nakamura), *Where the crawdads sing* (Delia Owens) and *Cold comfort farm* (Stella Gibbons).

## **NEW BOOKS ADDED TO THE COLLECTION**

The library purchases more than 100 new books each month, and new book lists are added to the library website within the first few days of each month. Please check the website soon for October's new books or contact the library for the book list.