

The CWCN Book Club is for booklovers, bookworms, food for thought gourmets, those who love the natural world, those who enjoy a debate, and those who just love having a good time.

The kettle is on, the biscuits are waiting, and the comfy chairs are out at the CWCN Centre.

We have a program for 2014 and welcome title suggestions for future years.

Like most of our events, the CWCN Book Club is open to everyone. However, due to the nature of the club participation needs to be kept to workable numbers. We kindly ask you to RSVP for sessions.

Participation Fee: \$5.00 per session.



Contact us

Cubberla-Witton Catchments Network Inc
PO Box 5200
Kenmore-East Qld 4069

CWCN Centre
47-57 Hepworth St, Chapel Hill Qld 4069

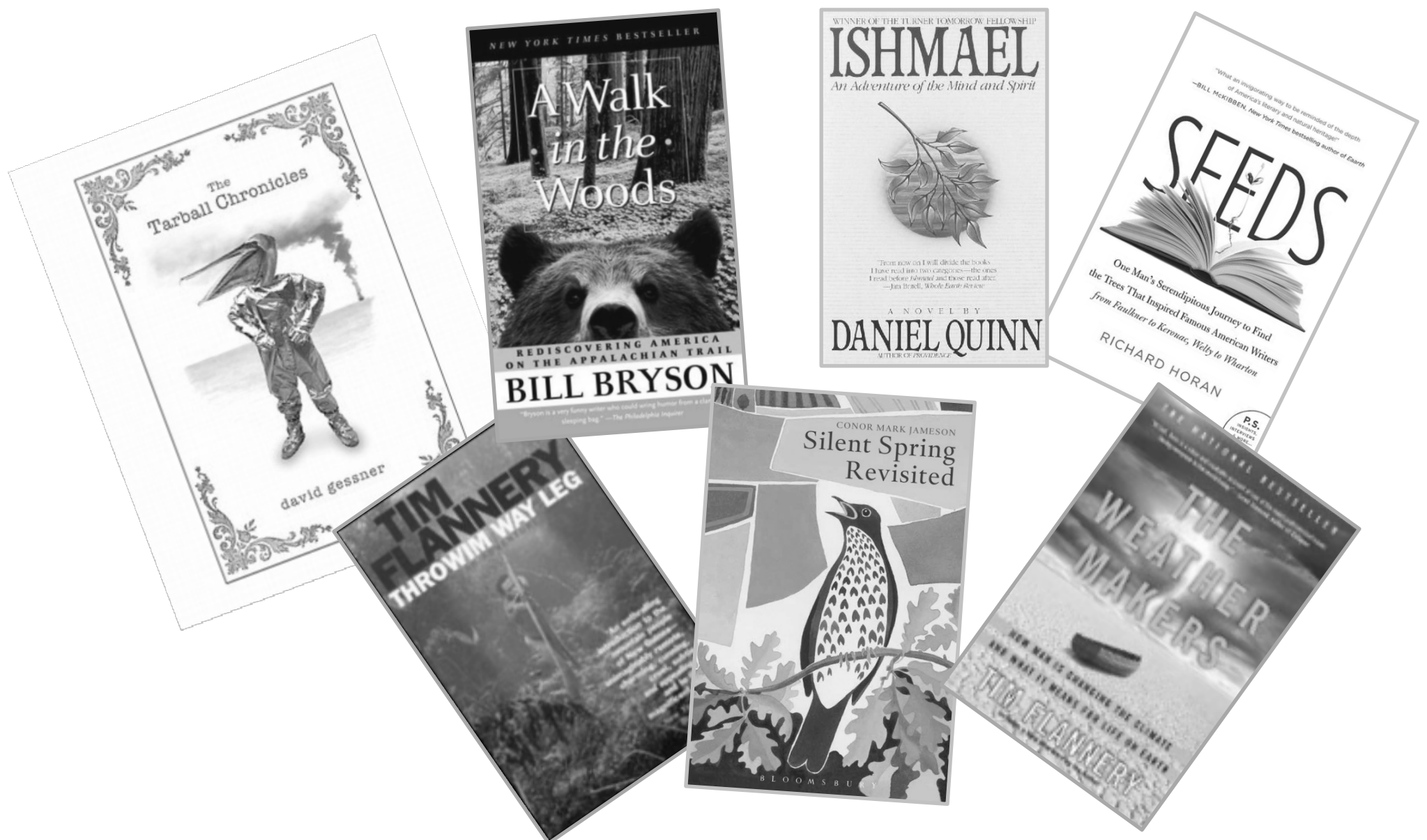
Phone 07 3878 4581
cwcncmail@tpg.com.au

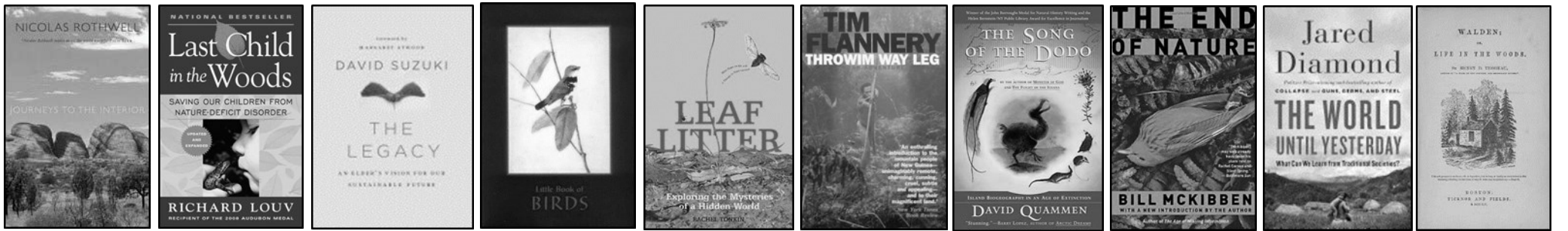
CWCN BOOK CLUB

Program 2014

Third Wednesday of the month Feb-Nov),
2.00pm-4.00pm
CWCN Centre
47-57 Hepworth St, Chapel Hill 4069

Our discussions are informal, wide ranging, interesting, and loads of fun. Our reading list for 2014 can be found at the back of this flyer.





February

***Silent Spring* (1962) by Rachel Carson**

“A book that changed the world”; Carson “the originator of ecological concern” (Lessing); “a devastating attack on human carelessness, greed and irresponsibility” (Saturday Review). Carson brought the attention of the world to the effects of pesticides (which she termed biocides) on nature, humans and life itself. Combining hard hitting science with lyrical and expressive writing, *Silent Spring* is a seminal book for anyone who has concerns about nature, the environment and the future of the world.

9th February, 2.00pm-4.00pm

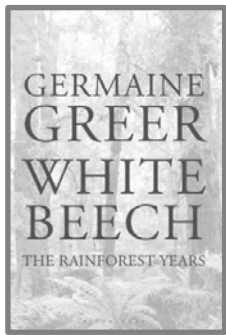
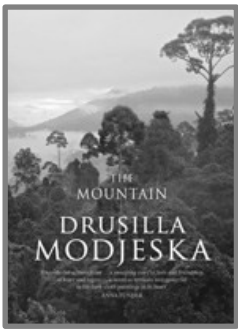


MARCH

***The Mountain* (2012) by Drusilla Modjeska**

Modjeska’s first novel incorporates a love story with a mystery that threads through a story of PNG which picks up themes of colonialism, neo-colonialism, acculturation, cultural conflict and cross racial tensions and challenges. And this is despite Modjeska’s own claim that “*The Mountain*” is a novel. It is not a work of history, ethnography or anthropology”.

19th March, 2.00pm-4.00pm



APRIL

***White Beech: The Rainforest Years* (2013)**

by Germaine Greer

If you ever read *The Female Eunuch* (1976) or any of her subsequent feminist works, you will have some idea of what to expect—feistiness, determination and, true to character, controversy. In *White Beech* Greer writes about her efforts to rehabilitate a patch of rainforest on the Queensland/New South Wales border. This project is part of Greer’s campaign to encourage private land owners to restore rainforest on their properties because, as she argues, handing over land to public care is not only wasteful and inefficient, but it fails to protect the plants and animal species because these parks and reserves are starved of funds, are usually ‘poorly staffed, poorly equipped and poorly managed’ and the funding goes not to preservation and protection of flora and fauna but into ‘parking, toilets, picnic tables, barbecues, signage and may even choose to provide facilities for off-road bicycles and four-wheel-drive vehicles”(p. 341).

16th April, 2.00pm—4.00pm

MAY

***Journeys to the Interior* (2013)**

by Nicholas Rothwell

This is effectively a collection of essays covering different aspects of life in Northern Australia—indigenous life, environment, art, writing, people, history and futures. Some extracts from his opening paragraph sets the tone and illustrate his powerful descriptive prose:

“I would like to spread before you a world of rhythm and light; a world of beauty and fear; of rushing water and slow-burning dry-season fires... Not only is this region part of a rare climatic zone, often designated as the hot tropics; it is distinct, in culture and history, in look, feel and spirit, from the remainder of the continent lurking over the horizon... It is not temperate, but intemperate; it is a place of excess and scarcities, of silences and elusive, hidden keys. It has produced vast religious systems, but they are religions and cult of ritual and ceremony, rather than of doubt and faith, and the land and its look point towards a belief based solely on awe and reverence, on certainty instead of ambiguity”(p. 1).

21st May, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

JUNE

***The Last Child in the Woods: Saving children from Nature-deficit Disorder* (2008) by Richard Louv**

First published in 2005, this new edition reflects recent research and picks up on growing international debates around connections between well being and the natural world. “Can you recall and describe your favourite childhood place in nature? Where was it, how did you find it, how did you feel when you were there, what became of it?” Flowing from questions like this, and the deeply emotional responses that people are likely to give to such probing, Richard Louv, hypothesises that places in nature are important to children, so important that without those experiences, a child’s wellbeing may be compromised, and compromised to such an extent that the child may fail somewhere along the line to achieve her full physical and emotional development.

11th June, 2.00pm—4.00pm



July

A Selection of children’s books on nature and the environment

Participants are invited to bring along a favourite children’s book for discussion and for developing a resource list for children’s activities at the CWCN Centre.

16th July, 2.00pm—4.00pm

Catchments Network Inc

Book Club Program 2014

AUGUST

***The Legacy—En Elder’s Vision for our Sustainable Future* (2010) by David Suzuki and foreword by Margaret Attwood**

As Tim Flannery has noted: “Suzuki is the greatest environmentalist of our age” and with this in mind, the information Suzuki wants to pass on to us is not just important, it is vital for not only our wellbeing but for the ensuring this planet does have a future. The basis of the book was a speech made in 2009 when Suzuki reflected on how we have reached the situation in which we now find our world and presenting his vision for a better future. His “legacy” speech was an important summation of humanity’s over-reaching and offering a potential way forward and this volume captures and expands on that speech, making his “vision” available to a much wider audience.

20th August, 2.00pm—4.00pm

SEPTEMBER

***The Natural History of Selborne* (1789)**

by Gilbert White

“More than two centuries after its first publication, this pioneering work still makes essential reading for naturalists, ecologists, conservationists and lovers of English literature and the English countryside”... the fascination of the book lies in the magic of its prose and the vividness of its description, which have earned it the distinction of being the only work of natural history to have received equal acclaim as a masterpiece of English literature”. There is available The Illustrated Natural History of Selborne that extends the original text to include colour plates of flora and fauna from White’s contemporaries. If you are fortunate to get a copy of this it can enhance the reading and appeal of the text.

15th September, 2.00pm—4.00pm

OCTOBER

***THE Biggest Estate on Earth: How Aborigines Made Australia* (2011) by Bill Gammage**

Gammage explores a number of myths about the Australian landscape and about Indigenous Australia. Although not a new thesis—he picks up on a range of ideas and perspectives on both topics already out there ranging from Rhys Jones’ work on fire-stick farming of the 1960s, to Stephen Pyne’s studies on fire in Australia in 1991 and 2006 and his thesis that Aboriginal peoples across the continent were responsible for the landscapes that the First Fleet and subsequent waves of Europeans found on arrival in the colonies challenges long held notions about the “naturalness” of Australian landscapes and about Aboriginal lifestyles prior to 1788.

15th October, 200pm-4.00pm

NOVEMBER

Little Books of Poetry

from the Australian National Library

The ANL has been putting out a series of beautiful books (more booklets) of Australian poems celebrating a range of themes. We will focus on the little books of poems on fauna, flowers, nature, weather, trees (and any other relevant themes that become available over the year)

19th November, 2.00pm—4.00pm