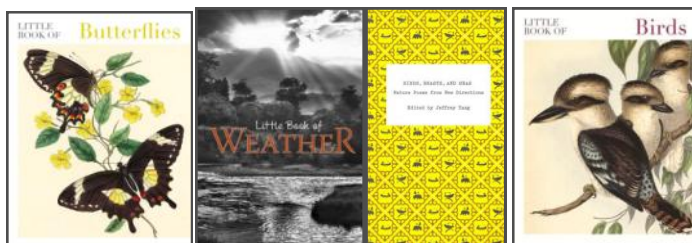


Wed, 21 Oct 2015
***Darwin. The Life of a tormented Evolutionist* (1991) by Adrian Desmond & James Moore**

"Unquestionably the finest [biography] ever written about Darwin. . . . Darwin has now become, and properly, the quintessentially socially embedded scientist. Desmond and Moore are brilliant in their pursuit of this truly unifying theme." (Stephen Jay Gould).

Hailed as the definitive biography, this monumental work explains the character and paradoxes of Charles Darwin and opens up the full panorama of Victorian science, theology, and mores. The authors bring to life Darwin's reckless student days in Cambridge, his epic five-year voyage on the *Beagle*, and his grueling struggle to develop his theory of evolution. Adrian Desmond and James Moore's gripping narrative reveals the great personal cost to Darwin of pursuing inflammatory truths—telling the whole story of how he came to his epoch-making conclusions. (Amazon)



Wed, 18th Nov 2015
A collection of Nature Poetry.

Participants are invited to choose and present their personal favourites. The book club's 2014 poetry session followed that pattern. It was a highly enjoyable afternoon with Australian and gems from other countries introduced and (re)discovered, and ranging from Judith Wright to J.W. von Goethe. We expect nothing less in 2015.

The CWCN Book Club began in 2014. We are pleased about its success. Regular participants are looking forward to the third Wednesday of each month (except December). Two hours of informal, wide ranging and interesting discussion are combined with loads of fun. A cup of coffee/tea and some tasty morsels contribute to the atmosphere.

We are pleased to offer another varied and interesting program for 2015 and hope you will find the chosen titles to your liking. They can be obtained through your library.

Fee per session: \$5.00.

If you need any further information contact us on 3878 4581 or email cwcncmail@tpg.com.au.



www.cwcnc.org.au



CWCN Book Club

2015 Program

Third Wednesday of every month
2:00pm—4:00pm

CWCN Centre
47-57 Hepworth St
Chapel Hill Qld 4069





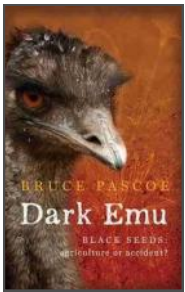
Wed, 21 Jan 2015

Where Song Began: Australia's birds and how they changed the world (2014)

by Tim Low

Low's project is 'aimed at recognising the crucial role that Australia has played in ensuring birds are one of the most successful class of creatures on the planet. While numerically, South America has by far the greatest diversity of bird species, it is only in Australia, Low argues, that birds have shaped the landscape

such a strong degree. They are, for example, ... more crucial to the pollination and distribution of plants here than anywhere else... Low surmises that not only do Australian birds fit more ecological niches than elsewhere on the planet.. But they are quite often both more intelligent, longer lived and louder and more aggressive than birds from other countries' (Sean Dooley, editor Australian birdlife, in The *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 June 2014)



Wed, 18 Feb 2015

Dark Emu, Black Seeds: Agriculture or Accident (2014)

by Bruno Pascoe
Like Bill Gammage (whose work Pascoe draws upon), this book sets out to challenge long-held perceptions of Aboriginal life and their technological developments. While Gammage took up the idea that Aborigines could be regarded as farming the land, and managing it especially through fire, Pascoe takes this a step further to argue that evi-

dence shows that Aboriginal people 'building dams and wells, planting, irrigating and harvesting seed, preserving the surplus and storing it in houses, sheds or secure vessels, creating elaborate cemeteries and manipulating landscape which is all counter to traditional views of the culture as one of simple hunter-gatherers.

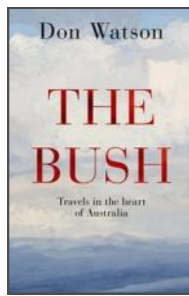


Wed, 18 March 2015

Throwim Way Leg. An Adventure (1998)

by Tim Flannery
The book describes his travels in Papua New Guinea and Western New Guinea in Flannery's quest for new species of flora and fauna, and his meetings and experiences with the people of various tribes of the areas. 'The book documents Flannery's experiences conducting scientific research in the high-

lands of Papua New Guinea and Indonesian Western New Guinea' (Wikipedia). Also described as a 'wild ride full of natural wonders and Flannery's trademark wit, a tour de force of travelogue, anthropology, and natural history (Amazon)



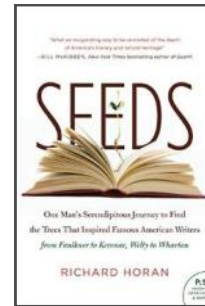
Wed, 15 April 2015

The Bush: Travels in the Heart of Australia (2014)

by Don Watson

A 'big' book—not only physically, but in content (appropriate for a 'big' continent I guess). It is travelogue, history, and discussion of our contradictory relationship with the 'bush'. The relevance of 'the bush' to Australia and Australians is set up in the introduction when Watson poses that the bush is both 'real and imaginary: 'Real, in

that it grows in various unmistakable bush-like ways and dies, rots, burns and grows into the bush again; real in harbouring life. Imaginary in that among the life it harbours is the life of the Australian mind. It is by many accounts the source of the nation's ideas of itself. The bush is everything from a gum tree to any of the creatures that live in it or shelter beneath it, and it is the womb and inspiration of the national character'.

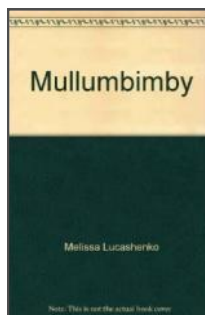


Wed, 20 May 2015

Seeds: One Man's Serendipitous Journey to find the Trees that Inspired Famous American Writers from Faulkner to Kerouac (2011)

by Richard Horan
This is Horan's journey to find and collect seeds of trees from the homes and places used by great American writers and which, possibly, even inspired those writers. He describes the trees—what he calls 'witness trees' and the works associated

with his writers. As Deborah Adams (2011) comments: 'It's a gentle read, spreading itself out like the branches of a sturdy oak that welcomes curiosity and admiration while offering shelter to dreamers'.



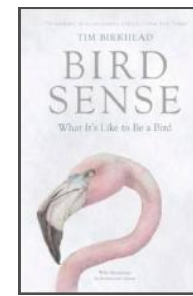
Wed, 17 June 2015

Mullumbimby (2013)

by Melissa Lucashenko.

A novel, a love story, and one that explores the issues of native title. Moreover, it is fairly local in that the setting is Mullumbimby in northern NSW—Bundjalung country. There is an element of autobiography as there are similarities with Lucashenko's life and that of Jo Breen who has just bought a piece of her 'country' near Mullumbimby which is also the sub-

ject of a land rights claim from other local groups. Lucashenko is a skilful user of language, described as 'a writer of immense intellectual rigour, passionate conviction and stylistic grace (UPQ Press—Book Club Notes), e.g. 'It rains here, thought Jo, entranced by the spectacle, as if the gods are trying to wash away some terrible story, wash away the blood in the rivers, wash away the names of the true owners of this place.



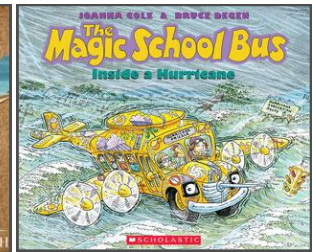
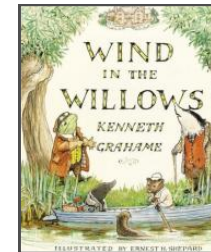
Wednesday, 15 July 2015

Bird Sense: What it's like to be a bird (2013)

by Tim Birkhead

Detailed observation and scientific research underpin Birkhead's explanations for how and why birds behave the way they do—in all their myriad of different ways. This is what Tim Radford (reviewer for the *Guardian*—21/11/2013) learned from *Bird Sense*: 'Chickens have bi-focal vision: one eye for the close-up work of pecking seed; one for

the fox on the horizon or the hawk in the sky. Peregrine falcons don't swoop directly on their prey—as the crow flies, to coin a phrase—but in a wide arc, using the right eye. Mallard ducks on the ground and swifts on the wings both nod off with half the brain at work and one eye wide open watching for danger'.



Wed, 19 Aug 2015

A collection of children's books will be discussed, each chosen and suggested by book club participants with the idea to enhance CWCN's children's library with relevant titles which will help to educate our young naturalists and instill a love of nature at an early age..



Wed, 16 September 2015

Colour. Travels through the Paintbox or Colour. A Natural History of the Palette (2002)

by Victoria Finlay

Part travelogue, part narrative history, 'Colour' unlocks the history of the colours of the rainbow, and reveals how paints came to be invented, discovered, traded and used. This remarkable and beautifully written book remembers a time when red paint was really the colour of blood, when orange was the

poison pigment, blue as expensive as gold, and yellow made from the urine of cows force-fed with mangoes. It looks at how green was carried by yaks along the silk road, and how an entire nation was founded on the colour purple. Exciting, richly informative, and always surprising, 'Colour' lifts the lid on the historical palette and unearths an astonishing wealth of stories about the quest for colours, and our efforts to understand them. (Amazon)

Continue to read overleaf for more program details