

# New to the Shelves

## BIOGRAPHIES

A melting pot of biographies has just arrived. Here are a couple of our favourites.

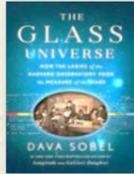


### **My Old Man: Tales of Our Fathers** | Edited by Ted Kessler

No two paternal relationships are the same. Every experience, every bond, is unique. And whether happy or sad, fond or fraught, the memories and stories we have about our dads stay with us for ever.

In this carefully curated collection, a dazzling list of contributors – including Florence Welch, Rod Stewart, Tilda Swinton, Leonard Cohen and many others – open up, some for the first time, about their paternal experiences.

**Shelf location:** 306.8742 MYO

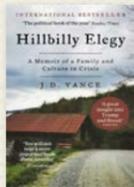


### **The Glass Universe: The Hidden History of the Women Who Took the Measure of the Stars** | Dava Sobel

The little-known true story of the unexpected and remarkable contributions to astronomy made by a group of women working in the Harvard College Observatory from the late 1800s through the mid-1900s.

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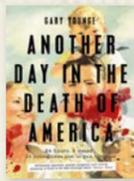
## TOPICAL READS



### **Hillbilly Elegy : A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis** | J D Vance

'Hillbilly Elegy' is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis -- that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group, a demographic of the United States that has been slowly disintegrating over forty years, has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck.

**Shelf location:** 305.562 VAN



### **Another Day in the Death of America** | Gary Younge

A harrowing account of children's lives cut short by the ubiquity of violence in the United States. Drawn from suburbs and cities of every demographic, these sensitively researched portraits of virtually unknown victims and their grieving families expose the structural ties of race, class, and the lack of gun control. Younge's book completes the picture of what violence looks like in contemporary America.

**Shelf location:** 363.330973 YOU

## LOCAL STORIES



### **The Mt Pisa Station Story** | Nicola McCloy

Rising 1963 metres above Lake Dunstan, Mt Pisa stands guard over the Lowburn Valley. From early settlement to the gold rushes, to the raising of the lake and freeholding of the land, the area has seen massive change in the past 150 years.

That change is reflected in the story of Mt Pisa Station. Mt Pisa's is a tale of boom and bust, of gold and water, of sheep and rabbits, and of a changing agricultural world. But more than that, it is the story of the MacMillan family - much of it told by Murray and Jacky, who along with their son Shane, are the current owners - and their connection to this iconic piece of land.

**Shelf location:** 636.010993 MCCL



### **Living in the Landscape : Extraordinary Rural Homes in Australia and New Zealand** | Anna Johnson

In recent years living in the big cities of Australia and NZ has become unaffordable to many. However, thanks to stronger transport infrastructure living in rural towns is now an attractive and viable option. This book explores 30 homes overlooking remote island clifftops, tucked into escarpments or seemingly dropped into the rainforest.

**Shelf location:** 728.37 JOH



### **The House of Secrets** | Sarra Manning

When Zoe and Win, raw and reeling from a recent tragedy, move into their new home, it's meant to be a fresh start and a way to mend the holes in their relationship.

But pushed to the back of a cupboard is a suitcase that's been gathering dust for eighty years. Inside is a wedding dress, letters and a diary all belonging to a woman called Libby. And there's something else in the suitcase, something that echoes Zoe's own pain.

Zoe follows Libby's trail from Paris to Spain on the brink of Civil War to secret trysts in London, and as Libby finds the courage to live and love again, Zoe begins to let go of her own grief. But when Libby's story takes a darker turn, Zoe becomes increasingly obsessed with discovering what really happened all those years ago.

## FICTION READALIKE AUTHORS

If you like Santa Montefiore, try this...

# Dr Seuss Reading Challenge

Kids who don't read much over the Summer holidays are likely to fall back in their reading levels and language skills. Encouraging children to read while they're off school will help avoid that 'summer slide' and may even make some gains for the start of the school year. That's why we were so thrilled to have over 200 kids take part in our Dr Seuss Holiday Reading Challenge this year. We have no doubt all that reading has paid off now they're back at school!

# Welcome!

Thanks for picking up our second edition of Off the Shelf. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we love putting it together.

We got a little (okay very) excited writing about all the new titles that have just arrived here but there are plenty more where they came from. If you haven't delved into a non-fiction book before, maybe now's the time to try something new.

Pop in and chat to us, we could talk about our new additions all day!

See you in the library soon.

Queenstown Lakes District Libraries.

# Connect with us

<b>Queenstown Library</b> 03 441 0600	10 Gorge Road, Queenstown queenstown.library@qldc.govt.nz
<b>Arrowtown Library</b> 03 442 1607	58 Buckingham Street, Arrowtown arrowtown@qldc.govt.nz
<b>Kingston Library</b> 03 248 8963	48 Kent Street, Kingston kingston.library@qldc.govt.nz
<b>Glenorchy Library</b> 03 442 4378	13 Islay Street, Glenorchy glenorchy.library@qldc.govt.nz
<b>Wanaka Library</b> 03 443 0410	2 Bullock Creek Lane, Dunmore Street, Wanaka wanaka@qldc.govt.nz
<b>Lake Hawea Library</b> 03 443 9371	Myra Street, Lake Hawea RD2 Wanaka hawea.library@qldc.govt.nz
<b>Makarora Library</b> 03 443 8342	Makarora School, Rata Road, Makarora library@makarora.school.nz

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# Off The Shelf

ISSUE 2 AUTUMN 2017

QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

NEW TO THE SHELVES | Try some non-fiction on for size

# Children's book reviews by Kiki

Hi everyone!  
Check out some of our  
fantastic new books!  
See you in the Children's  
section!



Taking a break from flying the  
Routeburn, Kiki has swooped  
by to highlight his favourite  
February reads.



**Survivors: Extraordinary Tales  
From the Wild and Beyond**  
| by David Long and Kerry Hyndman

This book almost blew my feathers off. Not for the faint hearted, Survivors tells the stories of hugely courageous people conquering adversity – from a snowboarder who rode into a storm, to erupting volcanoes and fighting off bears! I was on the edge of my branch! This beautifully compiled and illustrated hardback book sheds light on amazing feats of human bravery, quick-witted thinking, and ultimate survival against the odds. Something my species knows all too well!  
**Shelf Location: 508 LONG**



**Home Lab: Exciting Experiments for  
Budding Scientists (DK)**  
| by Robert Winston

If you're like me and love science... this book is next level! Clear and easy to follow, Winston provides a step by step guide to science experiments you can do at home... turn a lemon into a battery, create sunshine prints, or grow a jungle in a bottle! This great book will teach you more, and open the door to new scientific concepts! I was hooked! It is so important to find out how things work – knowledge is power, and this book is a library powerhouse! Come in and grab it quick!  
**Shelf Location: 507.08 WIN**



**The Wolf and the Baby Dragon**  
| by Avril McDonald

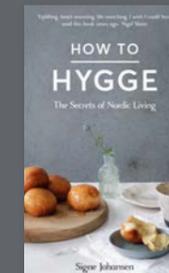
Wolfgang the Wolf - he never fails to disappoint! If you're like me, you might worry sometimes. And so does Wolfgang. When his friends all go off in search of a dragon, Wolfgang is slowed down by his big bag of worries... but luckily, his friends return to share his burdens! A heart-warming, beautifully rhyming tale that sends the reader on a journey alongside Wolfgang – as he conquers his doubts and fears with a little help from his friends. It's ok to be sad, everyone is at times, but problems shared are truly problems halved... or quartered... and vanished! What a lovely story!  
**Shelf Location: CPIC M**



**The House on Hummingbird Island**  
| by Sam Angus

Are hummingbirds the keas of the tropics? They are just as bright as me! This vibrant book tells the story of 12 year old Idie, who inherits a big house on a Caribbean Island in the early 1900's. Idie loves animals, and surrounds herself with exotic creatures. But all may not be as tranquil as it seems! Sam Angus's novel touches upon much wider, sophisticated concepts such as colonialism, racism, war and female obligation – Idie must find her place in an imperfect world as she grows into a strong young woman. A treat for the imaginative and inquiring mind of growing fledglings!  
**Shelf Location: CF ANG**

# How to Hygge



Reviewed by Deidre Hutton

With an exciting trip to Scandinavia coming up this year this looked like a good book to get some insight into Nordic Living and its secrets. The recipes looked pretty good as well. In the introduction hygge is defined and then the next few chapters discuss three of its main elements, nature and the seasons, outdoor pursuits and the spirit of self sufficiency. Each chapter explains how the idea is important to achieving hygge and is completed with a "how to hygge" section. Reading these chapters it is easy to compare Nordic living with the New Zealand life style which also includes these elements especially in a place such as the Southern Lakes and Central Otago.

Then comes the recipe sections, three chapters on 'Fika' (sweet things), the Nordic Kitchen (uncomplicated food with natural ingredients) and finally, Skal, a great selection of drinks for both summer and winter entitled Healthy Hedonism. What a great chapter title!

The next chapter is about Design and Home. In this chapter we are given some ideas for creating hygge at home: spring cleaning, banishing the carpet, lighting rooms correctly, adding Nordic design flair. The final chapter is titled Kinship, Conviviality and Openness and at the end of this chapter the main points of the book are summarised in a one page wind up.

This book is a quick and easy read and everybody will get some ideas about how to apply hygge to their own life style to improve their wellbeing. The recipes sound fresh and healthy and delicious. I especially enjoyed the opening quote by Hans Christian Anderson:

"But just to keep alive is not enough. To live you must have sunshine and freedom and a little flower to love"



Outside of a dog,  
a book is man's best friend.



Inside of a dog,  
it's too dark to read.

## Sage Snippets

SNIPPETS  
FROM SOME  
OF OUR  
FAVOURITE  
BOOKS THIS  
FEBRUARY

Available  
now at your  
local library



From the 'How to Get by Without even Trying' series:

**100 Tricks to Appear Smart in Meetings** | Sarah Cooper

### #1 Draw a Venn diagram:

Getting up and drawing a Venn diagram is a great way to appear smart. It doesn't matter if your Venn diagram is wildly inaccurate; in fact, the more inaccurate, the better. Even before you've put that marker down, your colleagues will begin fighting about what the labels should be and how big the circles should be. At this point, you can slink back to your chair and go back to playing Candy Crush.

### #2

If someone says, 'About 25 per cent of all users click on this button,' jump in with, 'So about one in four,' and make a note of it. Everyone will nod their heads in agreement, secretly impressed and envious of your quick maths skills.



From 'The Best Advice in Six Words':

'Always beware the "reply all" button' Brian Sting

'Laughter is good for the abs' Joy Bailey

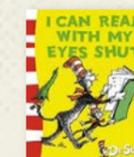
'Kindness is never wasted, or forgotten' Brigitte Peterson

'Everything you do is your signature' Robert Thompson



From 'At Home in the World':  
| Thich Nhat Hanh

'In the old times in Vietnam, when your cherry tree was about to bloom, you would take the opportunity to organize a reception to celebrate the occasion. You would predict on which day the blossoms would be perfect, and you would spend time writing personal cards inviting friends to come. You would prepare everything to ensure your friends would be able to enjoy a wonderful tea with you and there would be a special delicacy, perhaps even wheat-germ cookies, to have with the tea.'



From 'I can Read with my Eyes Shut':

'The more that you read,  
the more things you will  
know. The more that you  
learn, the more places  
you'll go.'