

Featured Group January 2014

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED GROUP – Book Groups East & West



As we meet in each other's homes, we have two separate groups to avoid the need for lengthy car or bus trips. Both groups meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. We are cheerful groups and have a lot of fun discussing the books. Some of us really enjoy the book under discussion and some don't like it at all, which makes for interesting and lively reviews; and often, while we are talking about the book it leads us onto all sorts of other topics. Are we trying to save the world!

The list of books we read is varied. Great non-fiction books like the excellent "The Lemon Tree" by Sandy Tolan, about a young Jewish woman and a young Palestinian man and an unbiased story of the Israel/Palestinian situation, "Meme; the Three Worlds of an Italian-Chinese-New Zealander" by Meme Churton, what an amazing life, and "Open" - Andre Agassi; such a well written autobiography of a famous tennis player.

We also have at one meeting 'a classic book of your choice'.

Novels we have read recently are, "The Marriage Bureau for Rich People" - Farahad Zama. So different. "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" - Rachel Joyce. A very imaginative, unlikely story. "Mr. Pip" - Lloyd Jones, set during the war in Bougainville and which is now a movie.

Thrillers: "Before I Go To Sleep" - S.J. Watson, so hard to put down, and "About Face" - Donna Leon, set in Venice. And then on a lighter note: "No! I Don't Want to Join a Book Club" - Virginia Ironside.

We would welcome a couple of new members.

Lesley Newling

If you would like to know more about how the book groups work, please phone Lesley

Photo: Lesley and her husband Noel in Jerusalem. [Noel is convenor of the Travel group].

