

# NEWSLETTER

Friends of Christchurch City Libraries

June 2020

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## Contacts

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## This year's AGM is almost here.....

This year's slightly delayed AGM will be held at 12.30pm before the July Ngaio Marsh Book Talk in the Fendalton Library Board Room on Tuesday 14 July. Afternoon tea will follow the book talk.

I encourage everyone with an interest in the Friends' work to attend the AGM. As well as assisting at the Libraries' annual book sale, your committee organises the monthly Tuesday book talk programme; provides hosting for library events as required; holds funds to purchase library resources that may not be covered by operational budgets.

Fresh ideas are always most welcome. Either email your thoughts to [friendsofchchlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofchchlibrary@gmail.com) or chat to a committee member at the AGM.



# Here's the best news since the move to Level 1: the 2020 Libraries' Book Sale is going ahead!

The new dates are Thursday 27 – Saturday 29 August

Pioneer Stadium, Lyttelton Street

Our huge thanks to everyone who's already re-offered their assistance but we still need some extra helpers.

Remember the Libraries' Book Sale is the Friends' biggest annual fundraiser and all proceeds go to Christchurch City Libraries

## We need:

Volunteers to help with the Thursday set up from 10.00am to 1.00pm or 1.00pm to 4.30pm

Volunteers for each of the six sessions of the sale to keep the stock tables tidy and stocked up; or to count and calculate the cost of items before purchase; or to staff the cash and EFT-POS points. These six sessions are:

The Friends' Preview on Thursday 4.30pm to 7.15pm

The Public Sale on Friday: 8.30am to 12.30pm, 12.15pm to 4.30pm and 4.15pm to 7.15pm.

The Public Sale on Saturday: 8.30am to 12.30pm and 12.15pm to 4.15pm

When the sale closes at 4.00pm on Saturday we need helpers to pack any unsold items from 4.00pm – 5.30pm

Please ring or email Barbara **NOW**

**Phone: 980-8596** Leave your name and phone number and Barbara will get back to you  
**OR Email: [friendsofchchlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofchchlibrary@gmail.com)** Please put 'Book Sale Volunteer' in the subject field and specify the shifts you can work.

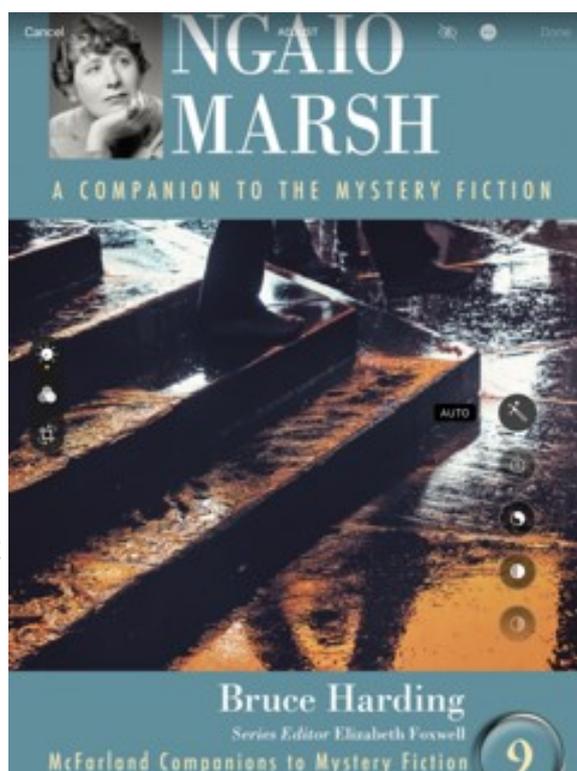
**STOP PRESS:** To attend the special Thursday Friends' Preview Sale you must be a **current** financial member. The Friends' financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March with 15 August the last date for payment of the 2020-2021 sub to attend the August 27 preview sale. Contact Norma, our Treasurer/ Membership Secretary if you've any queries.

Next year's book sale is mid- March so you'll get two Preview entries for the price of one subscription!

# BOOK TALKS 2020

**Bruce Harding**  
**14 July at 12:30pm**  
**At the Fendalton Library**

Though most of her theatrical novels about Scotland Yard's Roderick Alleyn are set in London, Ngaio Marsh was a New Zealander and maintained a relationship to her native country throughout her life. Bruce Harding is the curator of the Ngaio Marsh House in Christchurch and wrote "Ngaio Marsh, a Companion to the Mystery Fiction". He will talk about recent writing about Ngaio and what he thinks drives interest in her.



**Anna Rogers**  
**11 August at 12:30pm at the Fendalton Library**



## **GALLIPOLI: THE MEDICAL MISTAKES**

The Gallipoli campaign was not just a military failure. The arrangements for treating and evacuating the sick and wounded were badly planned and executed. Anna Rogers, the author of **With Them Through Hell: New Zealand Medical Services in the First World War**, looks at what went wrong and reveals the bravery of the doctors and orderlies who worked under such appalling conditions.

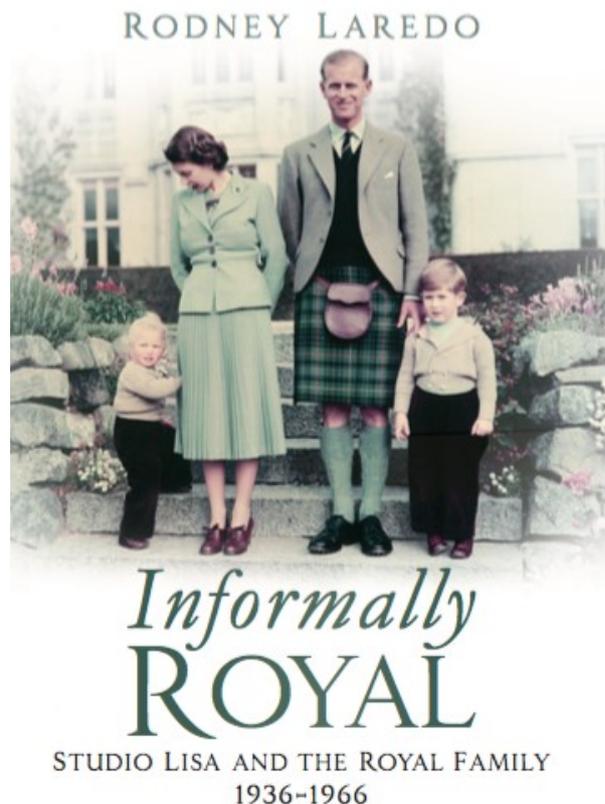
## BOOK TALKS 2020 continued...

**Rodney Laredo**

**8th September at 12:30 pm**

**Fendalton Library**

Author of best selling 'To Hell With Poverty' charting the humorous story of Rodney and his wife running a stunning English country House and his most recent book '**Informally Royal**' which looks at a husband and wife photographic team plucked from obscurity in the 1930's to record the royal family in private until 1966.



**Sandra Arnold**

**13th October at 12:30pm**

**Fendalton Library**

Sandra Arnold is an award-winning writer who lives in Canterbury. She has a PhD in Creative Writing and is the author of five books. Her most recent work, a collection of flash fiction, **Soul Etchings (Retreat West Books, UK)** and a novel, **The Ash, the Well and the Bluebell (Mākarō Press, NZ)** were published in 2019. Her flash fiction and short stories have been widely published and anthologised in New Zealand and internationally. She has been awarded a Robert Lord Cottage Writers Residency in Dunedin in August/September to work on a new flash fiction collection titled Under Ground. [www.sandraarnold.co.nz](http://www.sandraarnold.co.nz)



<https://makaropress.co.nz/submarine-books-2/the-ash-the-well-and-the-bluebell-by-sandra-arnold/>

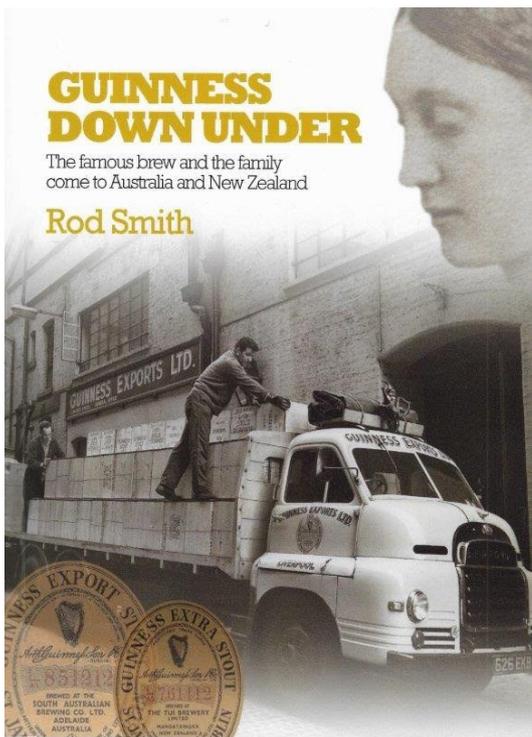
<https://landfallreview.com/ties-that-bind/>

# BOOK TALKS 2020 continued...

**Rod Smith**

**10th November at 12:30 pm**

**Fendalton Library**



“**Guinness Down Under**” tells the story of the famous stout and the family coming to New Zealand in the 1850s. The first imports were in 1851, and two of the family – Frank Guinness and Michael Burke – were early Canterbury pioneers. Author Rod Smith is a former newspaper reporter and probation officer, and keen family historian. His wife Glennis is a sixth-generation descendant of Arthur and Olivia Guinness. For more information see <https://guinnessdownunderanz.co.nz/>

“Like everywhere else, life in lockdown for the library and the staff has been challenging.”

For many the closure of the libraries meant there was only so much staff could do while working from home - for example professional development, increasing awareness of and confidence in using eResources, working on various projects, or being part of the team seconded to check in with over 70s to make sure everyone was doing OK. For other staff, the transition to working from home was more or less business as usual.

For the library, the focus quickly moved to ‘things digital’ and being accessible to all members 24/7. Changes were made to the website to ensure digital resources were more visible and these were promoted heavily in social media and through other advertising means. Online membership was also promoted.

Book talks, community connections and conversations were moved online. <https://newsline.ccc.govt.nz/news/story/library-users-turn-the-page-on-virtual-book-clubs> Some staff pushed their personal boundaries and filmed themselves presenting virtual storytimes or activities for children. <https://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/storytimes/> Other staff members focused on providing 30 minute readings of books for older adults <https://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/campfire-stories-read-aloud-for-adults/>. Library in your home, and Chat to a librarian initiatives were also implemented.

Use of eBooks, eAudio and eMagazines sky rocketed. More titles and copies were purchased to increase choice and reduce waiting lists. In April we saw an 196% increase in the usage of New Zealand eBooks available through the Wheelers platform compared to April 2019. There was also a 160% increase in users. More children took advantage of listening to stories through eAudio.

These was a huge uptake on the streaming video platforms we offer. Saturday is definitely the most popular day of the week to sit and watch a movie or a documentary. Just before Easter we added Beamafilm, which offers content with a strong Australasian flavour. The amount of streamed content being watched through Beamafilm continues to double each week.

Recently we shared with elected members, a summary of the some of the services offered by Libraries since lockdown. A snapshot of results achieved between 22 March and 23 April include:



1,936 new members\*



3.8k documentaries



347% increase eAudiobook / eBook issues^



45.7k Ancestry.com searches



13k Lynda.com tutorials



20k visits campaign pages



87% increase kids eAudiobooks



666 language courses



11k eMagazine reads

\*22 March – 27 April

^Comparative sample between 24 March and 5 April. 5975 issues in 2019 and 26,733 issues in 2020.

Now that we have moved to Alert level 2 we look forward to seeing everyone back in our libraries. In the meantime, we have extended library items that were due between 22 March and 14 May through to 15 June. This is to give everyone time to get their returns back to the library and find something new to take home and read.

For more up to date information please visit the Library's website at <https://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/> or ring the Library at 941-7923

Elaine Sides

Content Manager

Libraries and Information Unit