

Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In

Hi All

While we're all still having to adjust and **stay safe** at this worrying time we thought we'd bring you another issue of **Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In**. Lots of us are missing our family, friends and especially going out to our favourite places like the Library ☺ We decided that we'd put together this little newsletter with lots of bits and bobs in such as recipes, book recommendations, and we've even included a quiz to help ease the boredom.

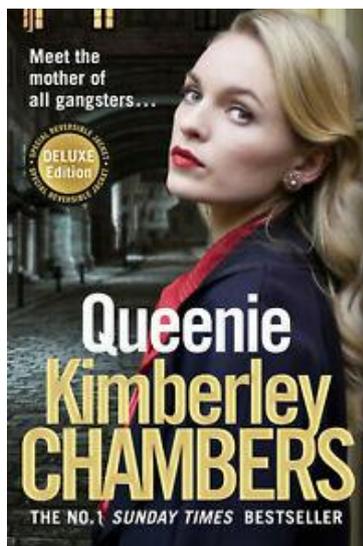
So, a little bit of homework for you while you're unable to go out and about. I was wondering if you'd share with us 'What You're Reading in Lockdown', or your favourite book/author that you'd like to recommend to others.

I've asked friends, family and colleague's to share with us what they're reading and it's quite a mix!

What are people reading?

Review by Michelle, Library Advisor

Queenie by Kimberley Chambers



For anyone who has been a fan of the Butler brothers and their domineering matriarch mum Queenie, then this prequel is a must read.

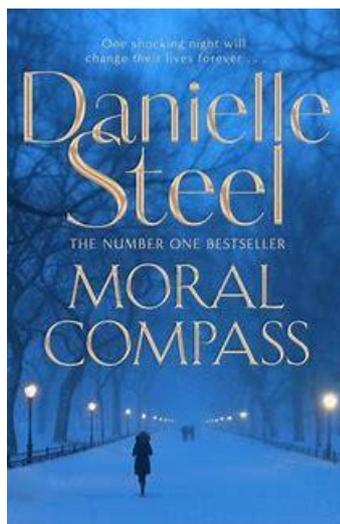
The story tells us how Queenie became the woman she is, starting when she was a 12-year-old girl growing up in wartime London to being sent away with her sister Vivian as an evacuee and the traumatic reason she returned home. Queenie lived her teenage years through the swinging 60s then meeting the unreliable Albie who would become her husband and father to her 3 precious boys, even though she was always secretly in love with someone else. It explores the relationship she had with her friend and neighbour Mary O'Leary, who was like a mother and mentor to her, and how the relationship Mary had with her sons and how the way she brought them up was a massive influence on Queenie. She saw Mary being given respect from the local community through fear of her sons and decided when she had kids that was what she wanted for herself and learning how to survive in the world they lived in turning a blind eye to any wrongdoings.

Queenie lived for her 3 sons- encouraging them to be the very best they could be, getting it by any means and spoiling them against their father's wishes as he could see that the way she was bringing them up was wrong, so this was always going to be a recipe for disaster. Growing up with the likes of the Kray's as role models the butler boys wanted their mum to have the same respect Violet Kray had even if it was through fear of them.

It was a great read and was interesting to see how Queenie was pivotal in her sons' lives and the influence she had on them, especially Vinnie, her firstborn and favourite. This book is an excellent example of the phrases 'sons are what their mother's make them' and 'nurture versus nature'

Response to Michelle's book review by Michele:

Moral Compass by Danielle Steel



After reading Michelle's book review in the last Lockdown Newsletter I thought I would give Moral Compass a try. I haven't ever read a book by Danielle Steel but Michelle's review got me interested. I found out on-line some interesting facts about Danielle Steel - she has written 179 books of which 141 are novels which come into the category 'popular romantic novels, she writes for 20 hours a day, often has 5-6 books on the go at a time, publishes 2 novels per year, has had nine children and is currently 70 years old.

I was not disappointed in this read. I thought the beginning where all the children and their parents arriving at the elite prep school was an excellent introduction to the main characters. I was intrigued when the serious crime was described in such detail so there was nothing the reader didn't know about it - quite a deviation from what is found in other contemporary novels. But again, this opened the way for an in depth exploration of the emotions of all involved in the event, the reactions of their parents, the approach of the police and justice system to those who cover up crimes, the role that the school itself took in the aftermath which I thought was exemplary.

Everyone has choices to make after the event, are the boys going to cover up or are they going to reveal the truth? Are the parents of the boys going to stand by them and try to buy their way out of the situation or are they going to encourage their children to do what is morally right and take responsibility for their actions? We see the struggles of all involved as they make choices. Those choices have an impact on the rest of their lives.

This is a compelling read! I couldn't put it down as I wanted to know how the justice system would treat the boys. I think it would be an excellent read for young adults still in school as well as parents of adolescents. The story has good lessons to teach

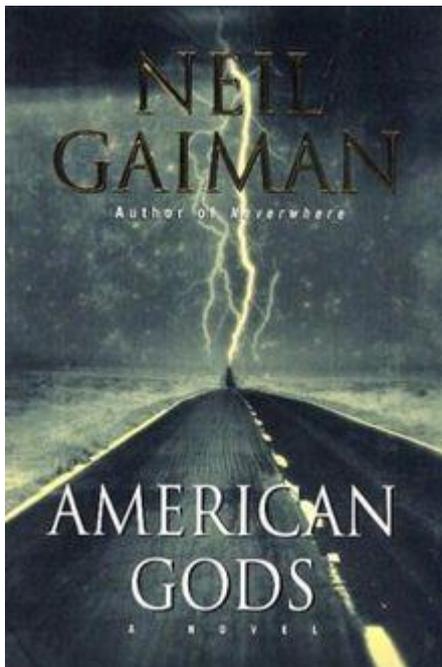
about the consequences of not taking the blame, covering up for the actions of others and taking or not taking moral responsibility.

We see how different parents react under pressure, some showing how morally responsible they are and others showing their worst side and how youngsters, however good, can get drawn into awful situations. All the characters show growth from the beginning of the story and some goodness does come out of the situation for the boys, the victim and the boys' parents.

You can get the book *Moral Compass* by Danielle Steel on the Belinda Digital platform for Knowsley Libraries - BorrowBox.

AMERICAN GODS

BY NEIL GAIMAN



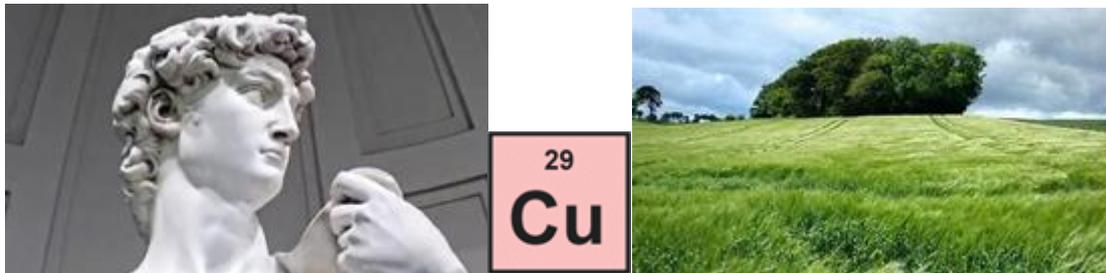
“It is the story of Shadow—released from prison just days after his wife and best friend are killed in an accident—who gets recruited to be bodyguard, driver, and errand boy for the enigmatic trickster, Mr. Wednesday. So begins Shadow’s dark and strange road trip, one that introduces him to a host of eccentric characters whose fates are mysteriously intertwined with his own. For, beneath the placid surface of everyday life, a storm is brewing—an epic war for the very soul of America—and Shadow is standing squarely in its path.”

I hope these snippets help, if you’d like to tell us what you’re reading we’d love to hear from you, and also if you’ve read any of the books recommended and what you thought of them. Please email yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk and we’ll post your book recommendations.

Lockdown Quiz:

Lockdown Quiz – courtesy of: **Hilary, Library Assistant**

See if you can find the five Dickens characters in this picture puzzle.





I'll add the answers next week, good luck!

The answers to last week's teaser are as follows:

1. Annie Walker
2. Mike Baldwin
3. Liz Macdonald
4. Kevin Webster
5. Hilda Ogden
6. Fred Elliot
7. Ena Sharples
8. Ken Barlow
9. Roy Cropper
10. Rita Fairclough

BBC1 14-16 JUNE 2020

A new TV mini-series is starting next week which dramatizes this true life incident of two years ago.

<https://deadline.com/2020/05/the-salisbury-poisonings-premiere-date-bbc-trailer-novichok-interview-producers-writers-video-1202947560/>



[‘The Salisbury Poisonings’: First Trailer For BBC One’s Novichok Drama; Premiere Date Set; Creatives Talk Heroism Of A Community In Crisis](#)

EXCLUSIVE: BBC One has set the premiere date for Dancing Ledge Productions’ anticipated three-part miniseries, The Salisbury Poisonings. A dramatization of the 2018 Novichok poisonings that r...

deadline.com

SUNDAY 21 JUNE 2020 IS MAKE MUSIC DAY UK - AND THIS YEAR IT'S GONE DIGITAL!

A chance for everyone to make and share music

Make Music Day is the grassroots Celebration where communities, musicians, venues and promoters collaborate to put on **free** music events in their local area. Started in France 1982 as Fete de la Musique, Make Music Day now takes place in 125 countries on the Summer Solstice. On 21 June every year thousands of events take place across the globe....

<https://makemusicday.co.uk/>

A Global Celebration of Music in 125 Countries every 21 June



[Make Music Day UK – 21 June, every year!](#)

makemusicday.co.uk

23 JUNE 2020

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN IN ENGINEERING DAY

The Women's Engineering Society are running events to celebrate women engineers and to promote engineering as a career.

<http://www.inwed.org.uk/>



Brought to you by the Women's Engineering Society 

NATIONAL WRITING DAY 24 JUNE 2020

Led by First Story this is the annual nationwide celebration of the power and enjoyment of creative writing. It is backed by a coalition of publishers and author ambassadors and contains online tutorials to help you get started.

<https://firststory.org.uk/writeday/>



250 YEARS SINCE THE BIRTH OF LUDVIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827)

The BBC are running a year long tribute to the great composer and currently playing Beethoven Unleashed: Return to Form which is available online.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000jq7v>



[Composer of the Week - Beethoven Unleashed: Return to Form - Thanksgiving - BBC Sounds](#)

Donald Macleod explores Beethoven's state of mind while writing his last string quartets.

www.bbc.co.uk

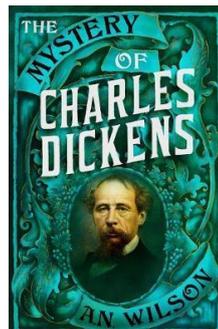
and next month the [BBC Proms](#) will have a "virtual" opening and a live last night designed to "bring the nation together". This year marks 125 years since the first Proms season, but plans have been changed due to the coronavirus pandemic. A virtual first night in July will see more than 350 musicians play together in a "mash-up" of his nine symphonies, having each recorded their part from home, in celebration of the 250th anniversary year of the composer's birth.

<https://www.royalalberthall.com/about-the-hall/news/2020/may/not-the-proms-as-we-know-them-the-proms-as-we-need-them/>

THE MYSTERY OF CHARLES DICKENS – A. N. WILSON

Continuing with the theme of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Charles Dickens, a new book has been published which examines how his own life and the people he knew are reflected in his works. This biography shows the darker side of Dickens' nature and a review of the book, published in the Guardian, is below:

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2020/jun/03/the-mystery-of-charles-dickens-by-an-wilson-review-a-great-writers-dark-side>



ANNE BRONTE 1820-1849

Born in the same year, and so an exact contemporary of Dickens, is the youngest of the Brontes, Anne, whose 150 anniversary also falls this year. Anne is most famous for her two novels Agnes Grey and The Tenant of Wildfell Hall. The Poetry Foundation have an interesting article on her life and works.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/anne-bronte>



[Anne Brontë | Poetry Foundation](#)

In Conversations in Ebury Street (1924), George Moore declared that "if Anne Brontë had lived ten years longer, she would have taken a place beside Jane Austen, perhaps even a higher place"; in addition, he described her first novel, Agnes Grey (1847), as "the most perfect prose narrative in English literature." If Moore's estimation of Brontë's work and potential was somewhat inflated, his ...

www.poetryfoundation.org

ANNA SEWELL 1820-1878

BLACK BEAUTY

Yet another British author to be born in 1820 is Anna Sewell who wrote one of the biggest ever bestsellers for children, although it was originally written for adults. Country Life magazine has written an article in tribute.

<https://www.countrylife.co.uk/out-and-about/dogs/the-story-of-black-beauty-the-hymn-to-a-horse-214960>



[How Anna Sewell wrote Black Beauty, the 'hymn to a horse' whose influence on animals is still felt today - Country Life](#)

A hymn to the horse, a comment on slavery, an ode to rural Norfolk: Anna Sewell's enduringly popular novel is all this and more 200 years after its author's birth, explains James Clarke. In 2017, a rare edition of Black Beauty went up for auction in Norfolk, in aid of the local Redwings Horse ...

www.countrylife.co.uk

ZOO LIVE STREAMS

Calling all animal lovers; whilst all zoos and safaris are opening their doors soon after a long time closed, there is a site which lists venues that have live webcams of animals both in the UK and USA. If you like your animals silent (and odourless!) then this could be the site for you. Just remember the time difference for the ones in the USA.

https://www.holidaypirates.com/travel-magazine/13-zoos-that-offer-live-streams-see-giraffes-koalas-pandas-tigers-penguins-more_35765



**Borrow, download
and enjoy here**

Your library in one app.

Recipe of the Week:

I'd like to share some easy to follow and lovely to eat recipes from family, friends and colleagues.

Simple Fish Curry

Provided by Aimee - Library Assistant

Serves 2

This is a simple curry that I enjoy cooking for my family, and it's so quick to make.

Ingredients

- 2 teaspoons of oil
- 2 tablespoons of medium curry powder
- 1 onion (diced)
- 1 carrot (diced)
- 1 stick of celery (diced)
- 250ml of chicken stock
- 2 skinless fillets of smoked haddock
- 150ml of cream
- 1 garlic clove (crushed)



- Heat the oil in a pan and add the diced onion, carrot and celery.
- Cook over a low heat until soft then add the garlic and curry powder, cook for a further 5 minutes.
- Add the stock and reduce until the liquid has halved.
- Add the cream and further reduce until the sauce is thick, but don't over boil as the cream will split.
- Add the smoked haddock.



- Cover the pan and turn off the heat.
- Leave for 10 minutes until the fish is cooked and can be flaked in the sauce.
- I've served it with crushed new potatoes and spinach, but can be served with rice.



Whilst we're **staying safe** some of us are having a break from reading by listening to music, watching TV and a whole host of other activities. Here are some recommendations:

Album of the Week:

Kiwanuka by Michael Kiwanuka

Recommended by Joe

Although I'd heard some of his songs, it wasn't until I saw Michael Kiwanuka at Glastonbury in 2016 that I realised what a force he is. He's soulful, powerful, masterful, and his new album introduces us to a sound that is both contemporary and timeless at the same time. I had tickets to watch him perform this new album, but they have been rescheduled for September due to Coronavirus. So it's been nice giving this a full listen, and reminding myself why I think it was the best album of 2019.

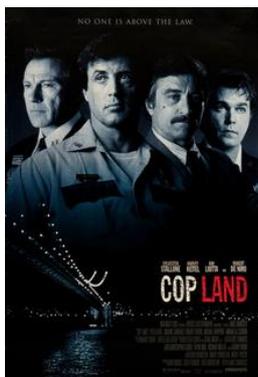


Here is Michael Kiwanuka performing 'You Ain't the Problem':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CC-fHfmNLkg>

If you'd like to share your thoughts on this album, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk

Films of the Week:



Monday: Cop Land

10pm ITV4 (Freeview 24, Freesat 117, Sky 120, Virgin 118)

Gritty crime drama that follows a suburban sheriff working on the edge of New York City, who becomes embroiled in high-stakes police corruption. The star studded cast includes Robert De Niro, Sylvester Stallone, Ray Liotta and Harvey Keitel.

Tuesday: Chicken Run

5.25pm CBBC (Freeview 201, Freesat 607, Sky 613, Virgin 701)

Mel Gibson stars as a rooster plotting a great escape from the poultry farm he is being kept at in Yorkshire. Heart-warming comedy with a lot of laughs. One for the whole family to enjoy.

Wednesday: The Social Network

9pm Sony Movies (Freeview 32, Freesat 302, Sky 321, Virgin 425)

This biopic follows Jesse Eisenberg playing Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg. The film explores the efforts of three people who helped Zuckerberg in the beginning as they stake their claim on his internet empire.

Thursday: St. Vincent

11.45pm Film4 (Freeview 14, Freesat 300, Sky 313, Virgin 428)

When a struggling single mother moves to Brooklyn with her twelve year old son, her long work hours means she has no choice but to leave him with her misanthropic next door neighbour. An unlikely friendship is born. Starring Bill Murray and Melissa McCarthy.

Friday: Selma

11.20pm BBC Two

In 1965, an Alabama city became the battleground in the fight for suffrage. Despite violent opposition, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his followers pressed forward on an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, and their efforts culminated in President Lyndon B Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965. David Oyelowo stars.

If you'd like to share your thoughts on any of the films, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk



Something for the Kids:

If you've missed Joe Wicks exercising in the morning you can catch up with him here <https://www.youtube.com/user/thebodycoach1/videos>

He's keeping kids fit and healthy and lots of the parents are joining in too, looks like lots of fun.

SITES TO TRY FOR THE KIDS

CHILDRENS' ART WEEK

ENGAGE are running a children's Art Week which gives children and young people the opportunity to get creative online across the UK.

<https://engage.org/happenings/childrens-art-week>



J K ROWLING - THE ICKABOG review by Hilary (a little older than 13☺)

I have been reading the new J K Rowling book online. I have really quite enjoyed this story although it is aimed at under 13s. I am a big fan of Blackadder and I can't help seeing Prince George when I am reading about the King of Cornucopia. Poor King Fred is not very bright, and he really shouldn't trust his so called two best friends, Spittleworth and Flapoon. "Both lords were expert

at flattery, and pretending to be astonished by how good Fred was at everything from riding to tiddlywinks. If Spittleworth had a particular talent, it was persuading the king to do things that suited Spittleworth, and if Flapoon had a gift, it was for convincing the king that nobody on earth was as loyal to the king as his two best friends." It remains to be seen if the quest for the Ickabog turns out well for King Fred.

I have discovered that I am too old to enter the illustration competition (only just!) but I thought I would have a go just for fun. So here is my first ever attempt at digital art. Now that I have set the bar so low I know that there must be many children out there who can do SO much better!



Here is a link which shows some of the entries from around the country.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8361939/JK-Rowling-shares-childrens-drawings-launching-competition-illustrate-new-book-Ickabog.html>

Craft Time!

Creative Canvas Craft



This is a simple craft idea that I came up with, for children and adults to do together during these testing times. It only requires a few everyday items, most of which we all have at home.

You will need:

A small square canvas of any size (H & B sell them for £1) or you could just use a piece of card.

Hole punch

Pencil

Pritt stick

Coloured paper, card or empty coloured recycling boxes.

Ribbon (if you want to hang it up))

Instructions:

Firstly, pencil the outline of your chosen design onto the canvas. This can be a simple shape, animal, flower, initial - whatever you want.

Next, decide which colours you want to use in your picture and then, using a simple hole punch, start punching lots of holes into the coloured paper/card. Remember - you can even use empty boxes. ie. For the actual cactus shown above, I used a Yorkshire tea box and then used different coloured box lids for the actual plant pot. A great way to reuse your empty boxes and it's free! (You will need lots of these little circles so this may take you a little while to do.)

Collect all your punched paper circles into a bowl and get ready to glue! Take your canvas and glue inside the shape of the outline you drew earlier, using a

pritt stick. Then, start pressing the coloured circles onto it, building it up gradually and your picture will soon come to life.

When finished, you can attach a piece of ribbon on the back and you will have a pretty canvas to hang on your wall.

I found this craft very therapeutic and once you've made one, you will want to make more. It's a great idea for a gift, all the more special because it's handmade.



Have Fun and Happy Crafting!
Pauline S

QUIZ TIME

1. What is a baby seal called?

- A. Pup
- B. Foal
- C. Kitten
- D. Cub

2. What is the name of the main Fairy in Peter Pan?

- A. Tinkerchime
- B. TinkerBell
- C. Tinkerhorn
- D. Tinkerbuzz

3. What type of animal is a Labrador?

- A. Cat
- B. Bird
- C. Horse
- D. Dog

4. What Type of animal is Bullseye in the 'Toy Story' films?

- A. Dog
- B. Horse
- C. Pig
- D. Dinosaur

5. In the Nursery Rhyme, who lost her sheep?
- A. Little Bo Blue
B. Little Bo See
C. Little Bo Look
D. Little Bo Peep
6. What do tadpoles turn into?
- A. Frogs
B. Snakes
C. Lizards
D. Crocodiles
7. What does a Carnivore eat?
- A. Vegetables
B. Fish
C. Meat
D. Plants
8. How many days are there in the month of June?
- A. 31
B. 30
C. 29
D. 28
9. What is the name of the tree that produces Conkers?
- A. Horse Chestnut
B. Sycamore
C. Oak
D. Pine
10. What is the capital of New Zealand?
- A. Canberra
B. Sydney
C. Wellington
D. Auckland

I'll add the answers next week, good luck!

How well did you do with last week's quiz? You can check to see how many you got correct, maybe all ten! The answers are below:

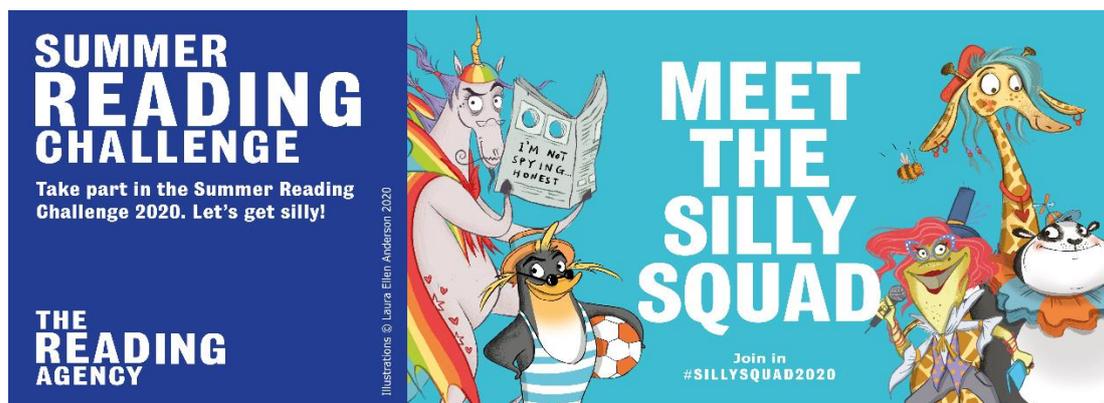
1. Snooker
2. English
3. Joey
4. Hedgehog
5. Herbivore
6. The Houses of Parliament
7. Atlantic
8. Olaf
9. Meercat
10. Blue

DON'T FORGET

The theme for this year's Summer Reading Challenge is "**Silly Squad**" - a celebration of funny books, happiness and laughter.

Sign up for the Challenge at sillysquad.org.uk. The site is free to access and will feature video content, games, quizzes, and digital downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in the Challenge at home. It is a place for children to rate and review their books and work towards their reading goal.

Challenge starts on Friday 5 June 2020 and will run until September



Keep Reading 😊

