

## Welcome to the Morialta Uniting Church Community Library

### From the Librarian

May is **History Month** in Adelaide. Our library will be having a **special history display** of life stories of people within our congregation who have written a story and given a copy to our library. Our own church history books and histories of other churches in our local area will be featured. The display will be in the main foyer each Sunday in May.

#### Upcoming Events

The National General Meeting of the Australian Church Library Association is to be held in the Morialta UC Hall on May 20 from 10am to 3pm.



Grant & Janna in Afghanistan

The Guest Speakers will be Grant Lock and Don Hopgood. Grant is the author of "Shoot me First", and his latest book is "I'd Rather Be Blind." Grant directed Afghanistan's largest eye care program,

until he himself became blind and returned home to confront challenges, intimate and global, with courage and compassion. He travelled to Afghanistan with his wife Janna.

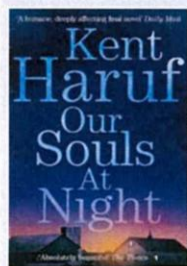
The cost is \$10 which covers morning tea and lunch. If you would like to attend this event, please let Lorraine know at [Ldpowers10@yahoo.com.au](mailto:Ldpowers10@yahoo.com.au)

#### Mark your Calendar

The Morialta UC Community Library's high tea and literary delights event will be held on Sunday July 16th from 5.00 to 7.30pm with guest speaker Raylene Pearce. More details will be available soon!

### Book Reviews

#### Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf



Addie and Louis have been neighbours for years - now they both live alone, their houses empty of family, their quiet nights solitary. Then, one evening, Addie pays Louis a visit.....

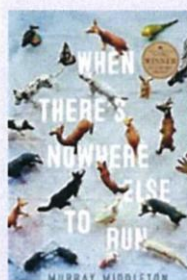
This is a "pearl" of a story - small, but beautiful! It is a love story about growing old with grace. Written in simple, straight-forward prose, it resonates with honest communication and open conversations

about expectations - their own and those of their families and the community around them.

I enjoyed this gem of a book - a quiet, charming read that keeps you pondering long after you have finished reading it.

*Reviewed by Jill Kerr*

#### When There's Nowhere Else to Run by Murray Middleton



This small book is packed with a wide variety of short stories ranging from funny to tragic, in locations stretching over much of Australia.

Within the fourteen tales we are given glimpses of life ranging from bush fires to riots and traffic accidents, with all the myriad emotions engendered by the same.

None of the stories are taxing to read, though many could probably have been extended into longer tales and in fact most leave the reader wanting more, as the stories often seem incomplete.

Though simplistic in style, these accounts cleverly suggest more than the actual words reveal, and are intriguingly seductive in their brevity.

*Reviewed by Jan Thornton*

#### Sticks and Stones by Abby Cooper



This new novel is powerful, thrilling and at times quite frightening.

The story (a follow-on to the previous book "Broken") begins on a happy day at a school fete. Maddie experiences again what, for her, is an all too familiar sensation. Flashbacks have dominated her life, tying her to the past and reminding her that life is often a terrifying place to be.

Domestic violence, a disturbing experience for it's victims, is hard to read about and Maddie's story is not for the faint-hearted.

This work of fiction is all too believable and unfortunately is an experience that many share with the accompanying feelings of fear and hopelessness.

Disturbing, tragic and inspirational, this novel will keep you engaged throughout and is not the kind of novel to finish just before trying to go to sleep, because sleep won't come; your mind won't turn off, and like Maddie you will have flashbacks!

*Reviewed by Jan Thornton*

#### A Little Life by Hanya Yanagihara



When four college graduates move to New York to make their way, they are broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition.

There is kind, handsome WILLEM; JB, a painter seeking entry into the art world; MALCOLM, a frustrated architect, and brilliant, enigmatic JUDE.

Over the decades their relationships with each other deepen, tinged by addiction, success and pride. Yet their greatest challenge, each comes to realise, is Jude himself, who is, by mid-life, a talented and successful lawyer, yet an increasingly broken man, haunted by childhood trauma that threatens to define his life forever.

This is not a book for the faint hearted - it is dense, and I found it emotionally draining and heartbreaking in parts. Despite the length and difficulty of the subject matter, it became a best seller .....so, good luck!

*Reviewed by Jill Kerr*

For more book reviews go to  
[www.morialtauca.org.au](http://www.morialtauca.org.au/resources/library)  
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If you would like to contribute book reviews for the library page, please speak to Lorraine, our librarian.