

Smythie

The monthly e-newsletter of the Smyth Public Library

January, 2015

Volume 8, No.8

"January is here, with eyes that keenly glow,

A frost-mailed warrior

striding a shadowy steed of snow."

- Edgar Fawcett

What's New... *Rescheduled!!*



Chris Schadler of Project Coyote

Chris Schadler of Project Coyote is coming to the Smyth Public Library on **January 15th at 6:30 pm.**

Ms. Schadler will speak about the evolution and myths surrounding coyotes, and what they are up to in NH. Including videos and a slide show, as well as Q&A, Chris's engaging and fascinating talk is sure to be a wonderful time!

Looking ahead...



February 5, Thursday at 6:30 pm

(Not So) Elementary, My Dear Watson: The Popularity of Sherlock Holmes

The recent spate of Sherlock Holmes movies, television shows, and literary adaptations indicate the Great Detective is alive and well in the 21st century. Holmes is the most portrayed literary character of all time, with over 230 film versions alone in several different languages; over the past century, Sherlockians created societies like the Baker Street Irregulars, wrote articles sussing out the 'sources' of Doyle's works, and, most recently, developed an entire online world of Holmesian fan fiction. Sherlock Holmes is now a multi-million dollar industry. But why? *Why* is Sherlock Holmes so popular?

This presentation explores the origins of Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective and tracks his incarnations in literature, film, advertising, and modern media in order to crack the case of the most popular detective.

Ann McClellan is professor of English and department chair at Plymouth State University where she teaches classes in 19th and 20th century British Literature. She is the author of *How British Women Writers Transformed the Campus Novel* as well as several national and international articles on writers like Virginia Woolf, Dorothy L. Sayers, and Jeannette Winterson. Her current project is on fan culture and the popularity of Sherlock Holmes.

Sponsored by the New Hampshire Humanities Council

These events are free and open to the public. Please call the library for further information at 483-8245. We look forward to hosting and hope to see you there!



Sherlock Holmes turned to Dr. Watson and announced: "The murderer lives in the house with the yellow door."

"Good grief, Holmes," said Watson. "How on earth did you deduce that?"

"It's a lemon entry, my dear Watson."

New on our shelves...

New Fiction...



Swing: a novel

Tom Clancy's full force and effect

The Cinderella murder: an under suspicion novel

Flesh and blood: a Scarpetta novel

The further adventures of Sherlock Holmes: The devil's promise

The Boston girl: a novel

The mistletoe promise

Winter Street

The look of love: a novel

Revival: a novel

Summer house with swimming pool: a novel

By winter's light

First impressions: a novel

Proof positive: a Joe Gunther novel

The Handsome Man's De Luxe Cafe

Seven wonders: a novel

Beard, Philip

Greaney, Mark

Clark, Mary Higgins

Cornwell, Patricia Daniels.

Davies, David Stuart,

Diamant, Anita

Evans, Richard Paul

Hilderbrand, Elin

Jio, Sarah

King, Stephen

Koch, Herman

Laurens, Stephanie

Lovett, Charles C.

Mayor, Archer

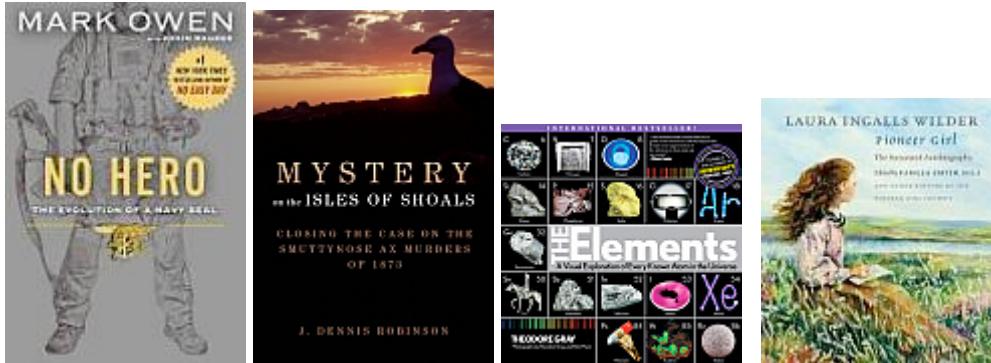
McCall Smith, Alexander

Mezrich, Ben

Incognito
Blood on the water: a William Monk novel
Betrayed: a Rosato & Associates novel
The Rosie effect: a novel
The accidental apprentice: a novel
Nora Webster: a novel
Lisette's list: a novel
The care and management of lies: a novel of the Great War

Murphy, Gregory.
Perry, Anne
Scottoline, Lisa
Simsion, Graeme C.,
Swarup, Vikas
Toibin, Colm
Vreeland, Susan
Winspear, Jacqueline

New Non-Fiction...



Miracles: what they are, why they happen, and how they can change your life

Metaxas, Eric

Dreamers and deceivers: true stories of the heroes and villains who made America

Beck, Glenn

The Nazis next door: how America became a safe haven for Hitler's men Lichtblau, Eric

Basic economics: a common sense guide to the economy Sowell, Thomas

What I know for sure Winfrey, Oprah

No hero: the evolution of a Navy SEAL Owen, Mark

Mystery on the Isles of Shoals: closing the case on the Smuttynose ax murders of 1873

Robinson, J. Dennis

The elements: a visual exploration of every known atom in the universe

Gray, Theodore W.

Faster, higher, stronger: how sports science is creating a new generation of superathletes, and what we can learn from them McClusky, Mark.

You are here: around the world in 92 minutes: photographs from the international space station

Hadfield, Chris,

Pioneer girl: the annotated autobiography

Wilder, Laura Ingalls

A sense of place: Candia's past & present 1763-2014

One small candle: the Pilgrims' first year in America,

Fleming, Thomas J.

41: a portrait of my father

Bush, George W

Sweet hell on fire: a memoir of the prison I worked in and the prison I lived in

Lunsford, Sara

Service: a Navy SEAL at war

Luttrell, Marcus

New Books on CD...

Conversations with Major Dick Winters: life lessons from the commander of the band of brothers CD (7)

Kingseed, Cole C

Tom Clancy full force and effect CD (15)

Greaney, Mark

The cinderella murder CD (7)

Clark, Mary Higgins

The burning room CD (8)

Connelly, Michael

New Video...

One night with the king DVD 759 [PG]
4 Minute mile DVD 760 [PG13]
Seasons of gray: a modern day Joseph story DVD 761 [PG13]
Maleficent DVD [PG]
End of the spear DVD [PG13]
Begin again DVD 764 [R]
Love finds you in Sugarcreek DVD 765 [PG] Miller, Serena,
Edge of tomorrow: live die repeat DVD 766 [PG13]
The Christmas candle DVD 767 [PG] Lucado, Max.
Treasures of the snow DVD 768 [G]
The inheritance DVD 769 [PG]
The hundred-foot journey DVD 770 [PG]
Planes — Fire & rescue / — DVD 771 [PG]
Ender's game DVD 772 [PG13]
The Giver DVD 773 [PG13]
The maze runner DVD 774 [PG13]
Guardians of the galaxy DVD 775 [PG13]
Cars 2 DVD 776 [G]



The high school music teacher was quite controversial. He told his students to read band books.

Events at the Library...



Knitting & Crochet Circle

Help with the cap, blanket, and scarf charity project, work on your own items, or just come to learn. Call Lisa

587-0603 for more info.
Third Thursday of the month, 7pm

LOVE TO SHARE A GOOD BOOK?

How about sharing your thoughts on a book at the friendly monthly book discussion group?

Adventures of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle

January 28th, 7:30

*Extra titles of this book are available at the front desk



Monthly Lego Night!

EVERY third Friday 6:30-7:30

Ongoing Book Sale!

You can browse at your leisure now and bring home a favorite to keep or to give away to a friend. Just look for the bright signs just inside our main doors on the left. Pay at the front desk. Only \$1 for hardcover and \$.50 for paperbacks. Proceeds go to the Friends of Smyth Library. Come find a treasure or two or more for your very own.



Tip from Heidi at the Circulation desk

Want to know how to be really rich?

See this advice from a story excerpt from Reader's Digest April 1922:

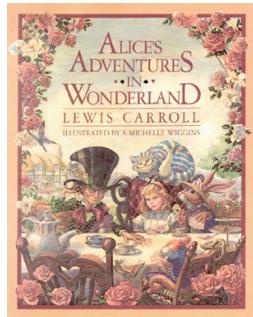
"...Innumerable poor wretches have nothing but money. If you are a careful observer, you will see that real riches consist of well-developed and hearty capacities to enjoy life... Your house of life ought to be a mansion, a royal palace. Every new taste, every additional interest, every fresh enthusiasm adds a room... Literature, classic literature, is a beautiful, richly furnished chamber, wherein, if you only loved it, you might find many an hour of rest and refreshment. To gain that love would go toward making you a rich person, for a rich person is not someone who has a library but who likes a library."

Excerpt from "Ten Rooms" by Dr. Frank Crane in *The American Magazine*, adapted for Reader's Digest 12/12/13

Come to Smyth Public Library and make your New Year a rich one!



Did you Know???



Alice in Wonderland was originally banned in China for having talking animals.

Library Assets...

ART WANTED!!!

Our art gallery is always available for the works of local artists.
Just see Heidi at the front desk to display your works.



Making Your Life Easy:

By going to our website, you can search our entire catalogue for books, CD's, DVD's and movies. Once found, you can check to see if what you want is in. If so, just go to our website and reserve the book. The next time you come in, it will be waiting for you at the front desk. **WITH OUR NEW WEBSITE YOU CAN DO IT WITH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!**

PLUS!! Check out our smythpl.org website updates and Smyth Library's new Public Catalog featuring:

- A crawl of new items.
- "What's Hot" now covers several choices.
- "Most Popular" titles (a combination of checkouts and reserves are used to determine this list).
- "More Search Options" includes Medium that lets members search by DVD or Large Print, etc.

More Research Options:

Full text articles from thousands of magazines, journals and national newspapers, plus NoveList. Call or e-mail us and provide your name and your library card number, and we'll give you the password.

We're on Facebook!

Like the Smyth Public Library page on Facebook for events and updates about our library!

PASSES....PASSES....PASSES



The New Hampshire Farm Museum located in Milton.

Discover New Hampshire with our NEW free library passes! Here is just a sampling of the adventures you and your family can enjoy: American Independence Museum, Aviation Museum, Children's Museum, Libby Museum, Currier Museum, Fuller Gardens, McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, The Fells Historic Hay Estate & Gardens, Museum of NH History, NH Farm Museum, Seacoast Science Center, See Science Center, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, Wright Museum. See the museum tab on our website for details.

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Smyth Library

Downloadable Books!!!!

Ipods and Kindle work!

Order right from our new website!

Carmen San Diego and Waldo



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Edgar Allan Poe



Edgar Allan Poe was born on January 19, 1809 in Boston, Massachusetts. Poe's father and mother, both professional actors, died before the poet was three years old, and John and Frances Allan raised him as a foster child in Richmond, Virginia. John Allan, a prosperous tobacco exporter, sent Poe to the best boarding schools and later to the University of Virginia, where Poe excelled academically. After less than one year of school, however, he was forced to leave the university when Allan refused to pay Poe's gambling debts.

Poe returned briefly to Richmond, but his relationship with Allan deteriorated. In 1827, he moved to Boston and enlisted in the Army. His first collection of poems, *Tamerlane, and Other Poems*, was published that year. In 1829, he published a second collection entitled *Al Aaraaf, Tamerlane, and Minor Poems*. Neither volume received significant critical or public attention. Following his Army service, Poe was admitted to the United States Military Academy, but he was again forced to leave for lack of financial support. He then moved into the home of his aunt Maria Clemm and her daughter Virginia in Baltimore, Maryland.

Poe began to sell short stories to magazines at around this time, and, in 1835, he became the editor of the *Southern Literary Messenger* in Richmond, where he moved with his aunt and cousin Virginia. In 1836, he married Virginia, who was fourteen years old at the time. Over the next ten years, Poe would edit a number of literary journals. It was during these years that he established himself as a poet, a short story writer, and an editor. He published some of his best-known stories and poems, including "The Fall of the House of Usher," "The Tell-Tale Heart," "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," and "The Raven." After Virginia's death from tuberculosis in 1847, Poe's lifelong struggle with depression and alcoholism worsened. He returned briefly to Richmond in 1849 and then set out for an editing job in Philadelphia. For unknown reasons, he stopped in Baltimore. On October 3, 1849, he was found in a state of semi-consciousness. Poe died four days later of "acute congestion of the brain." Evidence by medical practitioners who reopened the case has shown that Poe may have been suffering from rabies.

Poe's work as an editor, a poet, and a critic had a profound impact on American and international literature. His stories mark him as one of the originators of both horror and detective fiction. Many anthologies credit him as the "architect" of the modern short story. Today, Poe is remembered as one of the first American writers to become a major figure in world literature.

Poets.org

Kids' Stuff...

*Always hit the “**Children**” tab on our site for details and to see the newest events and activities for children*

Exciting new Children’s programs:

- NEW ***Sewing Club starts January 5**
Mondays at 6:30 pm-signups and fee required
- ***CALDECOTT CHALLENGE** - read through the award winning titles on your own or with a friend
- ***1000 BOOKS before Kindergarten-**
memory registers will be made available for parents
- ***January 7 BOOK CLUBS restart -3rd and 4th grade** club together on the first Wed. of the month after school 3-4 p.m.; **5th and 6th grade** club on Wed. nights 6:00 -7:00. Permission slips will be given out through the school. Attendance allowed only if signed up and permission slip given to school.

Every month’s book is listed on our website



Pajama Story Night

2nd Friday of the Month, 6:30 pm

Join us monthly for a night of storytelling and treats!

New Math Clubs Returning in January: Math and Mischief at the Library:

Join Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s, where you will build stuff, run and jump, make music, make a mess...it's a totally new kind of math club. Bouncy dice explosion; Glow in the dark Geometry; Toilet paper Olympics. Hands-on games that get children fired up about math. Over-the-top fun with friends each week. Make math the cool thing to do after school. Be ahead of the curve and come along for the ride. Math will never be the same.



Simon Says Read

Gwen Paprocki brings Simon, her certified reading therapy dog to Storytime for another special session with the kids

Third Thursday of the month, 10:15am

New books for children...

Circle, square, Moose	Bingham, Kelly L.
Under the sun and the moon and other poems	Brown, Margaret Wise
The whispering town	Elvgren, Jennifer Riesmeyer
Anne of Green Gables	Helldorfer, Mary-Claire
The bear that heard crying	Kinsey-Warnock, Natalie
Who would like a Christmas tree?	Obed, Ellen Bryan
The eye of the whale: a rescue story	O'Connell, Jennifer
The secret of saying thanks	Wood, Douglas
Mr. Putter & Tabby turn the page	Rylant, Cynthia
I'll always love you	Lewis, Paeony

New books for juniors...

With a mighty hand: the story in the Torah	Ehrlich, Amy
Broken horse	Bryant, Bonnie
Cutting horse	Bryant, Bonnie
Million-dollar horse	Bryant, Bonnie
Purebred	Bryant, Bonnie
Ranch hands	Bryant, Bonnie
The Saddle Club #83 : horse thief	Bryant, Bonnie
The Saddle Club #85 : horse fever	Bryant, Bonnie
Saddlebags	Bryant, Bonnie
Stage coach	Bryant, Bonnie
Summer horse	Bryant, Bonnie
Wild horses	Bryant, Bonnie
Sarah Whitcher's story	Yates, Elizabeth
Why is everybody always picking on me?: a guide to handling bullies for young people	Webster-Doyle, Terrence,
How to speak dragonese	Cowell, Cressida

New books for young adults...

In the field of grace: a novel	Afshar, Tessa,
10 ultimate truths girls should know	Kampakis, Kari,
The secret of Pembroke Park	Klassen, Julie
Forbidden	Little, Kimberley Griffiths
Let it snow: three holiday romances	Green, John; Myracle, Lauren
In freedom's cause CD (2)	Henty, G. A
Under Drake's flag: a tale of the Spanish Main CD (2)	Henty, G. A

TriviaTime!

Every month we will ask the trivia question. If you know the answer, drop it off at the front desk or e-mail it using our website. We will randomly select the winner from the correct answers and

the

WINNER

will win ONE FREE WEEK of OVERDUE FINE AMNESTY ON ONE BOOK

Last month's question and answer:

Q. Who has been portrayed in film and television more than any human figure from literature (fiction)?

A. Sherlock Holmes

Winners!

Ray Cresswell

This Month's

Trivia

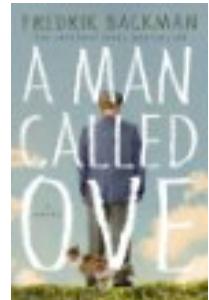
Question:

Q. What author asked a friend to burn all of his works and had three of his works published against his wishes?

From the New and Recent Shelves~

We (being I) are always looking for contributors to this reviews section. The editor has a limited range of taste, so any reviews would be more than welcomed. Just e-mail them in reply to this, or to librarian@smythpl.org

This month's Fiction...



A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman is one of the best two or three books I read in 2014. It started slowly, then grabbed me, then grabbed my heart and then wrapped itself around my heart like a soft muffler with a just a bit of burlap. Despite that sappy description, this is by no means a sappy book. But it is full of warmth and humor with a dash of scratchiness.

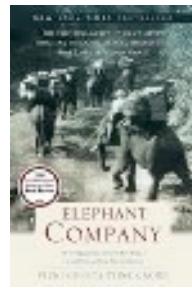
Ove is a taciturn, possibly grumpy, man set in his ways. He finds a new need to confront the changing world and he does not like it. He does like the change in his life, the people who force them or need to change. Like his Saab, he wants life to go on reliably and unchanging. He battles the changes and also fights battles that only he has been waging for years.

This is a great character study of a very unique character. The writing (or translation) sets a pace and tone that is perfect for a "biography" of this character. Like his conversation, the writing is done in a cadence that fits the man, Ove. There are other characters, but they are purely supportive; background to Ove. They are there to highlight him and to draw the eyes to his sharp corners.

With the warmth and humor there is also wisdom and some keen insights into human relationships. It would make great fodder for a reading group - entertaining, but still with a lot to talk about.

This is a very different book, perhaps because Ove is so different while still being perfectly believable. We've all met people like him, if not to this degree. This book is highly recommended. By the end, you might even want to buy a Saab.

Non-fiction...

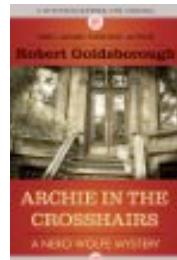


Elephant Company is not a war book so much as an elephant book and that is a good thing. The first three quarters or so is all about Williams, his relationships with elephants in the jungles of Burma and the elephants themselves. It is an amazing account of amazing animals as seen through Williams' eyes, who was enamored with the giant animals at his first sight.

Ms Croke weaves a story through the animal and human aspects while being informative about the colonial life of the Brits in Burma. But most of all, it is about the elephants and their capacity to amaze those who do not work with them on a daily basis - which, assumedly, is every reader of the book. Eventually World War II breaks in on Williams' iconic life and he saves the elephants from the abusive Japanese (who also want them) to use them extremely effectively in the Allied cause to retake Burma.

This is an interesting and engaging book. Any lover of animals will truly gain a much greater appreciation of elephants and appreciate a man like Williams who treated them like members of his family.

Obligatory mystery...



Years ago I read a book about how to read Literature. One chapter entitled: "Everything Comes from the Bible..." The next was entitled "...Unless It Comes From Shakespeare". It seems these days that every mystery comes from the good auspices of an author's estate. Robert Parker's Estate even has two authors allowed to write in his voice. Mr. Goldsborough has been authorized to write in the voice of Rex Stout and continue the Nero Wolf stories. I can't say I was a huge Stout-Wolf fan, but I have read several. It seems to me that not only has Mr. Goldsborough captured Stout's voice, but in Archie in the Crosshairs, he has crafted a darn good plot. Frankly, it was better than a few of the Stout-Wolf books.

Archie, always the hand-maiden star is featured in the books, not only as the eyes, ears and feet of Wolf, but in this book he is also the target of murder. Someone wants to do him in to get at Wolf who, of course, never leaves the house. In the meantime, a rich heiress becomes a client and Archie has to go in

two directions while protecting himself from a murderer.

Like Stout, Goldsborough captures New York City in its Upper Eastside well-off glory in the nineteen fifties.

This is a fine book, of which Mr. Stout, I am sure, would be pleased. If you've never read Stout, don't worry. This is a fine stand alone.

Ever want to be one of those know-it-all reviewers?

Got a book to recommend?

Want to write a blurb?

Have a child with a favorite book who would like to contribute to the Smythie?

We welcome contributors (less for us to write!), especially children and teens to review and recommend favorite books. Just drop Heidi Deacon an e-mail at librarian@smythpl.org or "reply" to this and we'll include it here. It need not be a new book – it can be a golden oldie, a classic, a trashy beach book or whatever you have enjoyed.

I hope you have enjoyed this edition. Comments, suggestions and, of course, reviews are always welcomed.

Rick Mitchell

The Smythie is now over 550 subscribers strong!!

But... We may not be for everyone. If you do not want to be on this e-mail list, just reply and tell us to remove your name.