

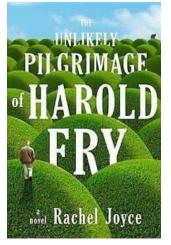
Book Review by Ann Barkla

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce

I get quite excited when I "discover" a new (to me) writer.

Earlier this year, quite by chance, I came across "The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" by Rachel Joyce.

Rachel Joyce is a British novelist and this is her debut novel. It was shortlisted for the Man Booker prize. She was also awarded the New Writer of the Year prize.





"The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry" follows

Harold's 600 mile walk from Knightsbridge to Berwick-on -Tweed . Harold is retired and one morning he receives a letter from his old work friend, Miss Queenie Ashton, written from a hospice where she is dying. He hasn't seen her for 20 years. Harold decides he must see Queenie before she dies. He sets out to walk from Knightsbridge to Berwick- on- Tweed, certain that Queenie won't die before he gets there. Amazing things happen to Harold as he walks to Queenie.

Having read Harold's story, I then read "The Lovesong of Miss Queenie Ashton", which describes Queenie's anxious wait for Harold to arrive.

I would happily recommend both of these novels and the others that Rachel Joyce has written recently.



Libraries Change Lives campaign calls for support

The peak body for Victoria's 272 public libraries statewide campaign to build community support and funding for services that attract more than 30 million visits a year.

The *Libraries Change Lives* campaign highlights the economic and social benefits public libraries bring to Victoria. New economic modelling demonstrates that every dollar invested in public libraries

generates \$4.30 of benefits. Victorian public libraries change lives by offering communities a place to learn, create and belong.

For more information on the campaign, visit www.LibrariesChangeLives

Thank you Alexandra Library From Grade 5W (St Mary's, Alexandra)

Our regular library visits have been a great opportunity for the year 5's of St Mary's Primary School, Alexandra to explore the many different resources available to us.

Every fortnight, on a Tuesday, we have been walking down to the local library to meet with Lisa and Sharon. Lisa has been running a short session for us, related to our learning topics and allowing us to review the books we have enjoyed reading.

We have found these visits very welcoming and invaluable to our learning. Lisa is always in tune with what we are learning about and gives us direction and options for further reading and research. Each visit builds on our awareness of the importance of our local library and the opportunities and support it offers our community.

We feel really grateful and privileged that our library has embraced our visits and made us feel we can drop in anytime. This has built on our connection to our local community. We belong to the library and it belongs to us.

We would like to thank Lisa and Sharon for everything they've done for us, especially the extra bonus of the warm/cold Milo's are really appreciated.



January is Membership Renewal Month. You can pay now for 2019 if you wish.

Friends of the Alexandra Library supports the local library of Alexandra and District by raising much-needed funds through:

• membership subscriptions and donations

• profits from Friends of the Library Bookshop in Grant Street, Alexandra.

Funds are used for added activities

Funds for events and resources to enhance the reach and services of the library into the community and for the enjoyment of library patrons.

In 2018 Friends of the Alexandra Library was the major sponsor for most speaker visits and special library events.

The public performance by the Acoustica Concert in November showcasing wonderful local talent was an example of events Friends of the Library helped fund in 2018. Most suppers and refreshments were funded through Friends of the Alexandra Library.

More than a place to borrow books

The library is much more than a place to borrow books. The library provides the community with significant social, economic and cultural activities that benefit everyone.

If you enjoy your local library why not help support its dynamic future as a creative,

innovative and resourceful community space. Help make it the best library in the state.

Friends provide a Voice

When there is need for community representation Friends of the Alexandra Library provide a community voice.

Please join/renew your membership to Alexandra Friends of the Library for 2019 today Add your name to the many others and register your support through Friends of the

Alexandra Library for our wonderful library.

Your \$5.00 membership is one of the best investments you can make – for yourself and for the community.

- Join/renew membership at Alexandra Library today.
- Thank you

Friends of the Alexandra Library	NEW MEMBER / MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2019 Membership is for calendar year. PLEASE PRINT
_	Member Name:
 Member 2019 \$5 Second Member 2019 \$5 	Email Address:
\square 10 year membership \$50	Second Member:
Also, I'd like give a donation to help Friends support library activities and projects	Email Address if different:
□ \$5 □\$10 □ \$50 (thank you)	Friends of the Library Alexandra and District Incorporated P.O Box 390 ALEXANDRA Victoria 3714
Please pay at the Alexandra Library counter	FOLAD3714@gmail.com

Alexandra Library: 49 Grant Street, Alexandra Vic 3714 P: (03) 5772 0382 E: <u>mls@murrindindi.vic.gov.au</u>

Library closedMonday 24 December 2018Re-openThursday 3 January 2019

Normal hours **Monday** 2pm - 5pm **Tuesday** 2pm-5pm 6pm-8pm **Thursday & Friday** 9.30am - 5pm **Saturday** 9.30am-12noon To find out "What's On" go to <u>www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au</u>, look up Libraries and then Alexandra Library.

Friends of the Library Alexandra and District Inc PO Box 390, Alexandra Vic 3714 E: proctor@virtual.net.au **President:** Tom Farrell **Vice-President:** George Evans **Secretary:** Tim Proctor **Treasurer:** Ann Barkla **Committee Members:** Gwenda Martin, Katelijne Kylstra, Bob Scott, Alan Smith, Ron Cooper.

Some Summer reading ideas from our members

