

May 2024

From the Librarian

Kia ora koutou,

It's been lovely meeting some you here in the library over the past month. I've been enjoying getting my bearings, within this rather majestic and a tiny bit mysterious library.

Some of you may have noticed the big piles of books stacked up around the library. I have begun re-arranging some sections. Sci-Fi can now be found where fiction used to begin, this making way for more crime! Not actual crime of course. Though it has meant that the fiction section is starting to become exclusively fiction/ romance only. Happy browsing!

We are looking at hosting more events here in the library. We will be having some exciting things coming up in the next months. Keep an eye on August. Hope you are all keeping warm in these days. Come in and have a chat with me if you haven't already.

- Holly Fletcher



What's Happening

We are looking at hosting more events here in the library. We will be having some exciting things coming up in the next months. Keep an eye on August.

Photo from our Fiction Section

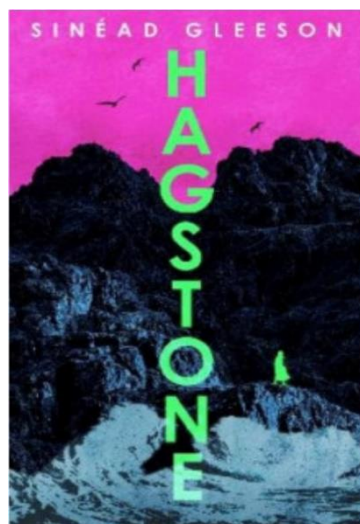


The Wireless Books radio show is still broadcasting on OAR 105.4 fm. Listen in at midday every second Saturday from 1st June. We will be rebranding the show within the coming weeks.



Book Reviews

Sinéad Gleeson
Hagstone



Sinead Gleeson is an Irish author and artist. This is her first novel

and for a first novel it is not without its flaws. *Hagstone* has been widely publicized both here and the UK. Her essay collection *Constellations: Reflections from Life*, won Non-Fiction Book of the Year at the 2019 Irish Book awards. She has collaborated with various artists both here and in the UK.

Hagstone is a story centred around Nell, an artist living on a remote island half a day's journey from the Irish mainland. Nell appears to be a little bit washed up, but this doesn't detract from her ability to live contently or attract people to her. One day she is approached by the mysterious Inions, a commune of women who have come to the island to seek refuge and solace in nature. The Inions commission Nell to create a piece of art to celebrate their long history.

The different relationships Nell creates during this book, the Inion woman, a famous actor and her lover Cleary are all set against this eerie backdrop, creating a sense of tension. The intense storms, the history, the isolation. The book moves forward with the pace of a mystery.

I could imagine *Hagstone* being made into a great film. I found the character of Nell to be convincing and refreshing. The book's ending landed a bit softly for me. However, I am still haunted, by the bleak imagery Gleeson creates out of this cold, isolated island.