

## MONDAY BOOK CLUB NOVEMBER REPORT

Our November book choice is *A Change of Climate* by Hilary Mantel which we will discuss at our meeting on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> at The Priory Hotel. The book is set in Norfolk in 1980 and concerns Ralph and Anna Eldred, parents of four children whose family life threatens to disintegrate in the course of one summer when memories which they have repressed fiercely for twenty years resurface to disrupt the purposive and peaceful lives. The novel was first published in 1994 by Viking Books and at that time *The Observer* described it as the best book she had written. It was published in the United States in 1997 by Henry Holt and was recognised by the *New York Times Book Review* as one of the most notable books of that year. The novel has also been identified as one of the best of the 1990's.

As our December meeting would be so close to Christmas and everyone is so busy with the run-up to the festivities we decided to meet up for a pre-Christmas meal and on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November ten of us enjoyed a lovely evening with great food at The Priory Hotel. Natt and her staff made us all feel very welcome and a great time was had by us all.



Our next book choice is *Shrines of Gaiety* by Kate Atkinson (No 1 Bestselling, award winning author of *Life After Life*). This book evokes the Bohemian atmosphere of Jazz Age London and is peppered with unforgettable larger-than-life characters. Nellie Coker is Queen of London's nightlife in 1926 in a country still recovering from the Great War. She is ruthless but also ambitious to advance her six children including the enigmatic

eldest, Niven whose character has been forged in the crucible of The Somme. But success breeds enemies and Nellies' empire faces threats as beneath the dazzle of Soho's gaiety there is a dark underbelly, a world in which it is all too easy to become lost .....

Our January meeting will be held at The Priory on 29<sup>th</sup> and it will great to all meet up again.